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The Power of Good

Microsoft announces over Rs 1.55L-cr investment in India

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Guard against anarchy: SC to EC on threats to BLOs

Court concerned over states' lack of cooperation on SIR

NEW DELHI, PTI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday expressed concern over BLOs and other officials engaged in SIR 2.0 being "threatened" in West Bengal and other states, and asked the Election Commission to deal with the situation or "it will cause anarchy".

A bench of Chief Justice of India (CJI) Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi also voiced concern over the alleged lack of cooperation by state governments in the Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls and said, "What we want to ensure is that the SIR is done on the ground without any glitches."

"Bring to our notice instances of lack of cooperation, hindrances to work of BLOs and we will pass appropriate orders," the bench told senior advocate Rakesh Dwivedi, appearing for the Election Commission (EC).

Dwivedi submitted, "The state governments are supposed to cooperate with us and give us protection. If the state government refuses to do so, then we have no option other than taking the local police under deputation. If the situation still does not improve, then we will have to call central forces."

Justice Bagchi said the poll panel cannot take the police under its jurisdiction until the commencement of the election process. Dwivedi said the EC has all constitutional powers to deal with instances of BLOs and other officials engaged in SIR work being threatened.

"Deal with the situation or it will cause anarchy," CJI Kant told Dwivedi, terming the situation "very serious".

▸ SIR, Page 6

CRACKING DOWN

- SC asks EC to report lack of cooperation, hindrance to work of BLOs
- EC's advocate says if the situation still does not improve, then they can call central forces

Justice Bagchi says poll panel cannot take police under its jurisdiction until the commencement of the election process

- The top court seeks responses from the EC, the Centre and the West Bengal government

SC: Can't EC decide on citizenship?

The Supreme Court on Tuesday asked whether the Election Commission is barred from conducting an inquiry in case of a doubtful citizen and if an inquisitorial process falls outside its constitutional power.

Rs 5,474 crore lost to cyber fraud in state in 3 years

BELAGAVI, DHNS

Citizens in Karnataka lost a staggering Rs 5,474 crore to cyber frauds, including online betting, in the last three years and the police have managed to recover Rs 627 crore, Home Minister G Parameshwara told the Assembly on Tuesday.

Parameshwara was replying to a question by Sakleshpur BJP MLA Cement Manju on persons aged 16-35 falling for online betting games.

Between 2023 and 2025 (up to November 15), Karnataka reported 57,733 cases of cyber frauds. The police have cracked 10,717 of the reported cases, Parameshwara said.

"In 2023, there were 22,255 cases, people lost Rs 873 crore and we recovered Rs 177 crore. In 2024, there were 22,478 cases, Rs 2,562 crore was lost and we got back Rs 323 crore. Investigations are on and more money may be recovered. In 2025, there have been 13,000 cases with Rs 2,038 crore lost and we have recovered Rs 127 crore so far," he said.

"While the number of cases have decreased -- from 22,000 to 13,000 -- the amount of money lost is Rs 2,038 crore," Parameshwara pointed out.

Parameshwara said Karnataka was the first Indian state to create a cyber vertical headed by a director-general of police. "We have 43 cyber police stations with a cyber command. This is helping, going by the fall in case numbers," the minister said.

In 2021, the previous BJP government amended the Karnataka Police Act to prohibit online games. This was struck down by the high court in 2022 based on a petition by the All India Gaming Federation. The government has challenged this before the Supreme Court.

"The case is listed on December 19," he said.

RISING CONCERN

Year	Cyber crime cases	Detected	Amount lost	Amount recovered
2023	22,255	6,159	**Rs 873.29 cr**	Rs 177 cr
2024	22,478	3,549	**Rs 2,562.63 cr**	Rs 323 cr
2025 (up to Nov 15)	13,000	1,009	**Rs 2,038.84 cr**	Rs 127 cr

SOURCE: HOME DEPT

After employees, students to get menstrual leave

Bill expected to be tabled in the ongoing winter session

SUJAY B M
BELAGAVI, DHNS

Bill benefits

- Schools, colleges and university students to get two days leave a month
- Bill proposes a 2% relaxation in the attendance to menstruating students
- Number of such leaves cannot exceed 12 days per year
- Bill extends the menstrual leave benefits to transgender and gender queer persons

Two months after it approved the menstrual leave policy granting a one-day leave per month to all working women, the state government will bring in a Bill extending the facility to menstruating students as well.

The initial draft of the Karnataka Working Women Wellbeing Bill, 2025, which *DH* has accessed, provides one paid leave per month to all menstruating persons (girls, women and transgender and gender queer persons) working under the government or in private institutions and two days leave per month and consequently a 2% relaxation in the attendance to menstruating students in schools, colleges and universities (both government and private).

However, the Bill notes that the number of such leaves cannot exceed 12 days per year. The Bill extends the menstrual leave benefits to transgender and gender queer persons too (earlier government orders based on the menstrual leave policy were confined to women).

▸ Leave, Page 6

Pleas challenge policy

The Karnataka High Court posted to Wednesday petitions challenging the state government notification mandating one-day paid menstrual leave a month to women employees. On Tuesday, Justice Jyoti M initially stayed the notification. However, the interim order was recalled just before the lunch break. Page 6

Goa nightclub owners' illegal shack razed

PANAJI/NEW DELHI, PTI: The Goa Tourism Department on Tuesday demolished 'Romeo Lane', a beach shack illegally constructed at Vagator by the fugitive owners of the fire-ravaged nightclub at Arpora.

Related report, Page 10

Fuming govt curtails IndiGo's services by 10%

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) on Tuesday curtailed IndiGo's winter schedule by 10%, up from 5% ordered 24 hours ago, after the Civil Aviation Ministry observed the airline has "not been able to adequately manage" its operational resources following the "abnormal" cancellation of services.

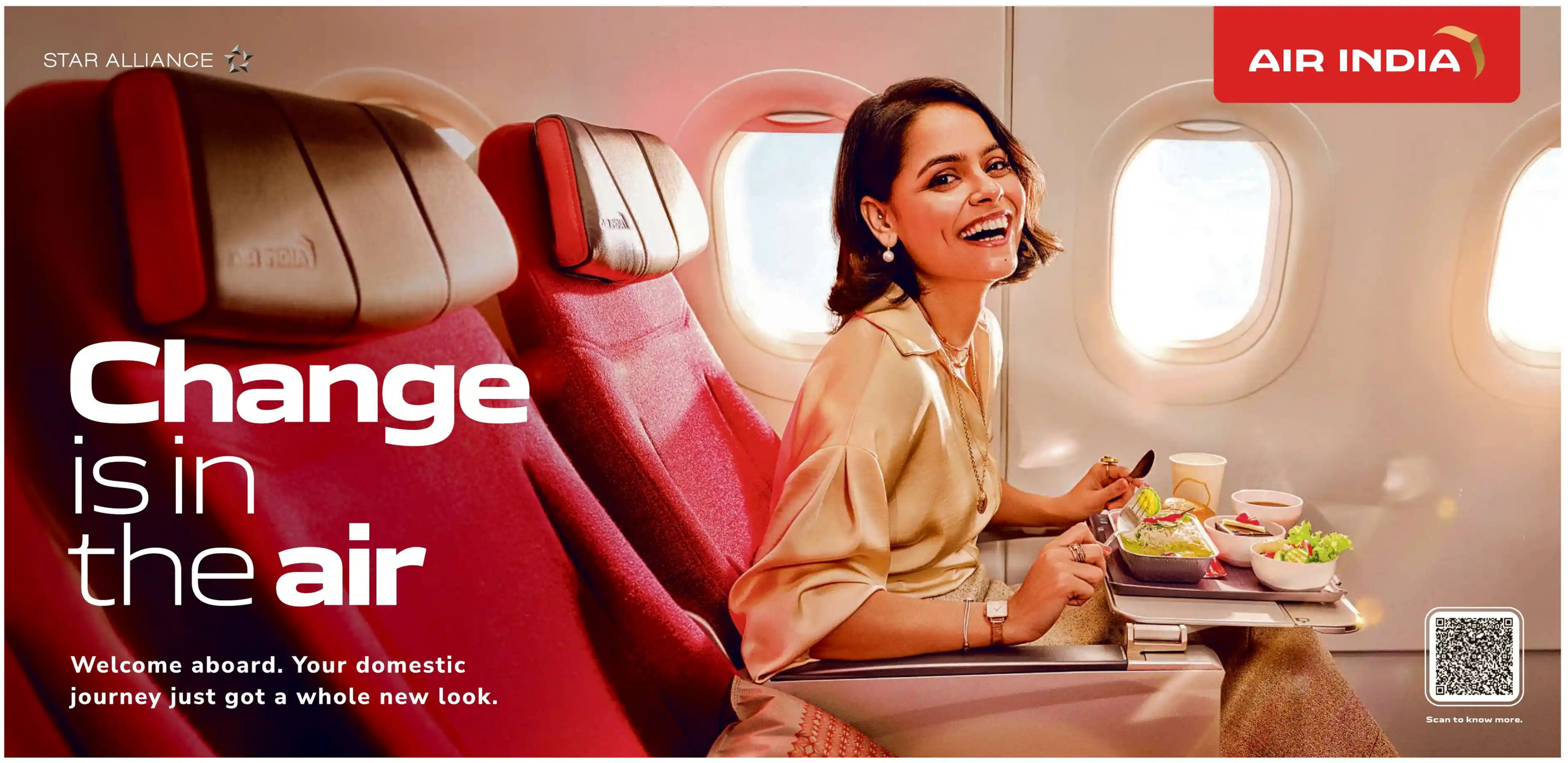
The DGCA's fresh order came after Civil Aviation Minister K Ram Mohan Naidu summoned IndiGo CEO Pieter Elbers for a review, even as the airline said it has "optimised our operations" by operating around 1,800 flights by the end of the day and hoping to operate 1,900 on Wednesday. On Tuesday, around 500 flights were cancelled.

▸ IndiGo, Page 6

'No impact of Trump rice threat on India'

BENGALURU, DHNS: US President Donald Trump warned that he will consider imposing tariffs on agricultural exports, including Indian rice. This, however, is unlikely to have a major impact on Indian rice exports.

Details on Page 14



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Travel plans in turmoil

Number of flights cancelled at at KIA

121 **58** inbound, **63** outbound

Key cancellations from Bengaluru included flights to **Delhi, Chennai, Prayagraj, Nagpur, Kolkata, Pune, Mangaluru, and Jaisalmer.**

> The irony is, after we received the message about the cancellation, we called the call centre, and they told us the flight had not been cancelled. There is serious miscommunication.
> **- Kavitha,** Media professional

> Several members from IndiGo have clarified that it was not a crew shortage that led to the disruptions. Pilots were ready for duty. There were errors in the rostering system, which eventually led to the disruptions. The DGCA must strictly look into how and why this happened.
> **- Captain Anil Rao,** General Secretary of the Airline Pilots' Association of India

TRAVELLER CONCERNS: Despite repeated complaints, airline and travel sites continue to deduct fees

IndiGo delivers partial refund; flyers fume

At the Kempegowda airport, the crisis hit ground staff hardest – many say the stress and abuse were overwhelming. DH FILE

A passenger waits outside the IndiGo Airlines kiosk at the airport. FILE PHOTO

ASRA MAVAD
BENGALURU, DHNS

Passengers who faced multiple flight delays and cancellations with IndiGo remain furious after not receiving the full refund amount from the airline.

While IndiGo has offered a full waiver on cancellations and rescheduling for bookings till December 15, several Bengaluru passengers claim to have lost between Rs 400 and Rs 3,000 due to cancellations.

Despite the airline promising a full waiver, passengers said that when cancelling on the IndiGo website, cancellation charges and convenience fees are still levied.

"We attempted to cancel two tickets for an upcoming flight to Delhi, but the website says we will be charged deductions worth Rs 1,200. The customer support has not been helpful," said Ravi, a retired accountant.

Third-party websites such as MakeMyTrip, ClearTrip and Ixigo also continue to charge cancellation and convenience fees, customers said.

"While there is no cancellation fee, these websites have all sorts of hidden fees such as a convenience fee and an ancillary fee, and it turns out they cannot be waived. So, for three tickets, we have lost about Rs 3,000 due to this fee," said Aditya, an IT employee.

However, a few customers did say that they had received the full refund.

Anger spills online

Social media remains flooded with similar grievances.

Kavitha, a media professional, shared that about Rs 435 was deducted from her refund.

"We had booked a ticket from Bengaluru to Bhubaneshwar on December 8 for Rs 8,147, but we received an automated email that we would receive a refund of Rs 7,712. What happened to the rest of the amount?

"The irony is, after we received the message about the cancellation, we called the call centre, and they told us the flight had not been cancelled. There is serious miscommunication," she said.

An IndiGo source clarified that while the airline fee will be fully refunded, the convenience fee will be deducted.

DAY 08 INDIGO CRISIS

Airline staff bear the brunt of rising passenger fury

IndiGo staff tend to waiting passengers at Terminal 1 on Tuesday, providing snacks and juice.

ASRA MAVAD
BENGALURU, DHNS

As IndiGo disruptions drag into a second week, ground staff and pilots recount the distress they have faced. Amid the chaos at the Kempegowda International Airport (KIA), ground staff were the worst affected.

Speaking to *DH*, employees recalled being victims of verbal abuse and stress-related trauma during the crisis.

"We repeatedly told people to remain calm, as they continued to pounce on us. Passengers were understandably angry, but there was little we could do to help them. It was exhausting, and I was in tears at the end of my shift. It has made me rethink my career," an employee said.

Angry passengers targeted everyone, from IndiGo staff to airport security, and even ground staff of other airlines. The foul treatment was not limited to ground staff, but also extended to cabin crew.

The IndiGo crew remain upset at not receiving enough support from the management, as they were left to handle irate passengers alone.

"We had to face angry fliers without the higher management stepping in. While a few sensible passengers helped calm the situation, most took their anger out on us," another staff member said.

'No shortage of pilots'

Claims of a pilot shortage at IndiGo are false, say Bengaluru-based pilots.

They described being ready for duty last week, with aircraft prepared for dispatch, but not receiving clearance from the management.

"Several members from IndiGo have clarified that it was not a crew shortage that led to the disruptions. Pilots were ready for duty. There were errors in the rostering system, which eventually led to the disruptions. IndiGo had enough time to prepare for the new norms. The DGCA must strictly look into how and why this happened," said Captain Anil Rao, General Secretary of the Airline Pilots' Association of India.

He added that dispensations provided by the DGCA to various operators were dangerous, as they could potentially put the lives of thousands of passengers at risk.

IndiGo did not respond to *DH*'s queries about safeguards put in place to protect employees.

Airport-bound Vayu Vajra buses run nearly empty

ASHWIN BM
BENGALURU, DHNS

The mass cancellations of IndiGo flights directly impacted the Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation's (BMTC) affordable Vayu Vajra airport bus service.

While the number of buses deployed has remained steady, the outbound passenger load from the city to the airport has seen a big drop, according to senior officials with the BMTC.

The BMTC operates around 150 Vayu Vajra services daily to the airport, maintaining a fixed schedule of over 1,000 one-way trips to cater to an average of 14,000 passengers, a senior BMTC official told *DH*.

Despite the disruption in air travel, the BMTC has maintained existing service schedules, with no increase or deviation of buses to other routes.

"We are running empty for the last one week," said the conductor of a BMTC Vajra bus. He added, "On one route, we had only four seats occupied. The bus ran empty on Monday and only a handful of seats were occupied on different trips last week."

The conductor confirmed that the low footfall is a direct result of the IndiGo crisis.

"People are not coming after the news broke about the flight cancellations," he said. The commitment to run the service remains for airport employees relying on monthly passes.

While buses heading to the airport leave with vacant seats, those arriving from the airport are filled. Stranded or delayed passengers are still opting for cheaper modes of public transport to exit KIA. However, the conductor said there has been no route deviation, as the ticket system relies on fixed routes.

On Tuesday, this DH reporter boarded an almost deserted Vayu Vajra bus bound for the airport. DH PHOTO/ASHWIN BM

Day 8 of IndiGo crisis: 121 flights cancelled

ASHWIN BM
BENGALURU, DHNS

The operational turmoil gripping IndiGo entered its eighth consecutive day on Tuesday.

Despite the severe cancellations, the ground situation at KIA on Day 8 was less crowded than earlier in the crisis.

Many passengers were notified earlier about cancellations, leading to reduced footfall.

The frustrated long faces seen last week were replaced with expressions of slight relief, perhaps due to IndiGo's efforts to manage the situation.

Stranded foreign backpackers and uncertain pilgrims were scarcely present at the terminal.

To ease passenger inconvenience, IndiGo has increased its hospitality measures. The airline now provides snacks, including namkeens and juice. "IndiGo is providing snacks and has assigned a person to tend to the waiting passengers," said a staff member at the terminal.

Passengers, though still facing delays, expressed satisfaction with the improved support. "I had resigned myself to a chaotic day, but I was informed about the cancellation yesterday," said Sunita, whose flight was on time on Tuesday.

A British backpacker, Mark J, said, "It is still an inconvenience to wait, but the staff today seem more organised and helpful. At least we are being notified about our flights a day before."

Work in progress

IndiGo representatives were unavailable for comment on the future operational schedule, but official releases assure efforts are underway to normalise services.

CRACKDOWN INTENSIFIES

City pubs accused of rampant fire safety breaches

BENGALURU, DHNS: Officials responsible for enforcing fire safety mechanisms in pubs across the city are calling for stronger enforcement and regular inspections.

A senior official, who did not wish to be named, told *DH* that several establishments continue to ignore basic fire-safety norms despite repeated notices from the department.

He said multiple recommendations were made to the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) and health department to cancel the licences of pubs that failed to comply with safety standards.

"Many pubs do not bother to follow fire safety rules or maintain safe access routes. Violations were common back then, and continue even now," he said.

He stressed the need for the fire department to conduct regular special drives, especially targeting high-rise buildings where rooftop pubs operate. These inspections, he said, must verify whether establishments have fire extinguishers, functioning firefighting systems and unobstructed emergency exits.

Some pubs, he added, even convert parking areas into storage spaces for safety gear, creating additional hazards.

"Customer safety inside pubs is extremely important. Fire safety compliance should never be compromised," said the official.

B'luru police target unlicensed, overcrowded pubs

In preparation for New Year's Eve, Bengaluru city police have intensified its crackdown, in coordination with the Karnataka Fire and Emergency Services, on unauthorised pubs and fire safety violations across Bengaluru.

City Police Commissioner Seemant Kumar Singh told *DH* a high-level meeting has been scheduled on Wednesday with all departments to review safety concerns at pubs across the city following the Goa pub tragedy.

"We will be highlighting the issues with officials of GBA, Bescom and other departments concerned to conduct a thorough cross-check of everything and to avoid any untoward incidents," Singh said.

Police officials said the enforcement will especially target unlicensed pubs, overcrowded venues and rooftop establishments operating in violation of norms.

Areas such as MG Road, Brigade Road, Indiranagar, Koramangala, HSR Layout and parts of North Bengaluru will be covered under the inspection drive.

"Action will be taken against pubs operating without the required permissions or ignoring fire safety norms," added Singh.

Goa tragedy spurs Bengaluru pub safety drive

BENGALURU, DHNS: Following the recent Goa pub tragedy that claimed 25 lives, Bengaluru pub owners are tightening fire safety and security measures ahead of Christmas and New Year's Eve.

Pubs in Indiranagar, Koramangala and Central Business District are taking no chances, reinforcing safety measures as enforcement agencies step up inspections.

Management staff at several pubs said they have upgraded fire safety equipment, strengthened crowd control, and increased staff training for emergencies. Enhanced CCTV coverage, extra lighting and electrical checks are among the stricter compliance measures adopted to avoid lapses.

Pub owners say heightened scrutiny has prompted internal audits and stricter adherence to safety norms.

"Customer safety is our top priority," one manager said, adding that establishments are prepared for surprise checks throughout December.

A senior manager at a pub in Indiranagar said the pub has added safety systems following advisories from the police and Karnataka Fire and Emergency Services.

"We have ensured extra lighting in critical zones, enhanced CCTV coverage across all floors, and upgraded our fire-safety equipment," the manager said.

Sandeep TS, head of operations at an prominent bar & kitchen, said his establishment has implemented all mandatory fire-safety protocols.

The premises are equipped with working fire extinguishers, smoke detectors and emergency exit signage, all of which undergo regular checks.

He added that staff have received basic fire response training, and the pub maintains annual service records as required. Extra trained bouncers are deployed to prevent overcrowding during peak hours.

Wiring and electrical systems have been inspected and certified by authorised professionals ahead of the festive season.

Designated parking and access points are kept clear for emergency vehicles.

No room for lapses

Management staff at several pubs have taken the following measures:

- Upgraded fire safety equipment
- Strengthened crowd control
- Increased staff training for emergencies
- Enhanced CCTV coverage
- Extra lighting and electrical checks

SWIFT City project: Govt to raise relief for farmers

BELAGAVI, DHNS: The government has announced enhanced compensation for farmers who part with their land for the proposed SWIFT City (Startups, Workspaces, Innovation, Finance & Technology) project, in Sarjapur hobli of Anekal taluk in Bengaluru urban district.

The KIADB had issued preliminary notification for acquiring 24,381 acres. Of these, final notification too has been issued for 643 acres.

The government had initially fixed compensation at Rs 3 crore per acre, but farmers expressed dissatisfaction with the rate.

Raising the issue in the Council, H S Gopinath urged the government to proceed with land acquisition only after taking farmers into confidence.

Responding to the concerns, Industries Minister M B Patil said the government had already decided to increase the compensation amount, but did not reveal the extent of the hike.

Govt planning Black Soldier Fly composting in B'luru, says DKS

Two locations identified for setting up new plants

BELAGAVI, DHNS

Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar on Tuesday announced his plans to introduce the Black Soldier Fly (BSF) technique of composting in Bengaluru to help the city fight its garbage problem.

Shivakumar, the Bengaluru Urban Development minister, said this while replying to a question raised by Doddaballapur BJP MLA Dheeraj Muniraju who opposed the government's plan to restart a shut waste processing plant in his constituency.

The Black Soldier Fly (BSF) technique has been tried in Mangaluru, Shivakumar said. "There's a good project in Mangaluru. Even Prime Minister Narendra Modi mentioned it. The Black Soldier Fly eats (waste) and makes compost. I want to introduce this in Bengaluru," Shivakumar said in the Assembly.

Black Soldier Flies are known to break down organic waste and turn it into rich compost.

The government has identified two locations - north and south - where waste processing plants will come up. In the north, the government has identified 134 acres at Doddabelavangala in Doddaballapur where the now-defunct Terrafirma plant is located. Down south, the government has eyed 84 acres in Gollahalli, Uttarahalli.

"The same Siddaramaiah-led Congress government, in 2016, had shut down the Terrafirma plant for pollution. Twenty-five lakh tonnes of waste still is dumped there. People don't want the plant to be restarted," Muniraju said.

Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar makes a statement in the Legislative Assembly at Suvarna Vidhana Soudha in Belagavi on Tuesday.

DHEERAJ MUNIRAJU
BJP MLA

"The same Siddaramaiah-led Congress government, in 2016, had shut down the Terrafirma plant for pollution. Twenty-five lakh tonnes of waste still is dumped there. People don't want the plant to be restarted.

D K SHIVAKUMAR
Deputy Chief Minister

"I understand Muniraju's pain. Bengaluru and its surroundings generate 8,000 tonnes of waste. Where should we put it?.

Shivakumar said the government is introducing "the latest technology" in the new plants.

"I understand Muniraju's pain. Bengaluru and its surroundings generate 8,000 tonnes of waste. Where should we put it?" Shivakumar said.

Shivakumar said the new Dodabballapur plant has all the necessary clearances. "Earlier, a private firm ran it. Now, the government is taking over. We want to have scientific plants to generate biogas and energy," he said.

Garbage mafia: Ashoka

Leader of the Opposition R Ashoka urged Shivakumar to enact a law declaring waste management as an essential service in order to rein in the "garbage mafia" in Bengaluru.

Ashoka said that he tried fighting the "garbage mafia" when he was the minister in charge of Bengaluru.

"They stopped lifting garbage. Pressure mounted and we had to request them to resume work," he said. "Congress attacked us (BJP government) with a 'Garbage City' campaign. The situation is now worse and Shivakumar is realising the depth of the problem," he added.

"Bring a law...declare waste management as an essential service. We'll help you pass this law and defeat the mafia," Ashoka said. Shivakumar said he would examine this suggestion.

No bar on land sale at Devanahalli agri zone, clarifies govt

BENGALURU, DHNS

The government has declared 1,777 acres of land across 13 villages in Channarayapatna hobli, Devanahalli taluk in Bengaluru north taluk as 'permanent special agriculture zone'.

Farmers retain full freedom to sell their land — there are no restrictions whatsoever, clarified Dr S Selvakumar, principal secretary, department of industries. He urged farmers not to be misled by rumours, confusion or false narratives.

Selvakumar's clarification comes in response to reports in certain quarters claiming that farmers' rights to sell their land had been curtailed.

He said, "Farmers from these 13 villages expressed desire to continue agriculture. The government responded positively and honoured its commitment. Any claim that this decision causes hardship to farmers is untrue. Our intention is to prevent real-estate misuse of agriculture land and stop developers from exploiting farmers. We have not stripped farmers of their freedom or right to sell land".

Originally, this land near Devanahalli was earmarked for establishing an aerospace park.

But considering the farmers' request, the government rolled back the acquisition plan and reserved the area exclusively for agriculture. That said, if farmers voluntarily wish to sell land to the government, they remain free to do so — and will be compensated based on land price determination committee's decision. However, there is no requirement for land to be sold to the government only, he emphasised.

In a meeting chaired by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, it was previously decided to denotify the land and retain it for agriculture.

Now, going a step further, the area has been formally designated as a permanent special agriculture zone — offering enhanced benefits to farmers. The government has assured that necessary infrastructure for agriculture development will be provided.

These lands were already classified as a part of green zone. The government aims to ensure that agriculture grows alongside industrial development. By designating the region as permanent special agriculture zone, it hopes to attract investment to agriculture as well.

Under this provision, farmers can benefit from high-yield seeds, cold storage facilities, organic farming, modern agriculture technologies direct market access, better produce prices, e-trading and digital marketplaces.

They will also receive special tax exemptions for farms and agri-startups, faster approvals for agri-business projects, growth of agriculture-based industries, export opportunities, warehouse development and local employment, the government said.

Similar 'special agriculture zones' exist in states like Tamil Nadu, Chhattisgarh, Uttarakhand and Maharashtra — and even abroad. A committee will soon be formed to study the benefits provided to farmers in these places. Based on its findings, the government intends to extend similar benefits in Karnataka, the statement said.

2.84 lakh govt jobs vacant, says CM

BELAGAVI, DHNS: Chief Minister Siddardamaiah told the Legislative Assembly on Tuesday that 2.84 lakh jobs are vacant in the government and the Finance Department has permitted filling up 24,300 jobs.

The number of vacancies has risen from 2.76 lakh last year. According to Siddaramaiah's written reply to Bijapur City MLA Basanagouda Patil Yatnal, the Department of School Education and Literacy has the highest number of vacancies at 79,694.

"On one hand, thousands of job seekers are exceeding the age limit and on the other hand, the government is delaying recruitment. The future of eligible candidates is being jeopardised by the corrupt recruitment agency called the Karnataka Public Service Commission," Yatnal said in a tweet.

"I urge the government to stop unscientific schemes and fill the vacant posts, streamline the administration and provide justice to eligible candidates," he urged.

1.33 lakh seats not filled in aided PU colleges

BELAGAVI, DHNS

Government aided pre-university (PU) colleges in the state are losing sheen as they are struggling to attract students.

During the 2025-26 academic year alone, colleges failed to fill all the available seats. According to data provided by Minister for School Education and Literacy Madhu Bangarappa in the Legislative Council, as many as 1,33,243 seats were left vacant.

According to information shared in a written reply to a question by BJP MLC Dr Dhananjay Sarji, total seats available at aided colleges for the 2025-26 academic year were 2,25,200, of which, the colleges were able to fill only 91,957. Though there is no intake restriction at government-run colleges, they enrolled only 2,77,507 students.

Following the decline in demand, several aided institutions approached the department for closure, and between 2022-23 and to 2024-25, as many as 11 aided colleges were closed. However, the minister clarified that in the last three years, no government PU college has been closed.

"Both government and aided colleges follow a similar structure in functioning. They don't offer integrated coaching for competitive exams, they lack of teachers and other infrastructure. When this is the scenario, parents and students prefer private colleges over the government and aided ones," said a senior academician.

The data shared by the minister before the House revealed that no new government college has come up in the state in last three years. However, as many as 393 private unaided colleges were permitted.

SECOND LARGEST TRICOLOUR

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah unfurled the second largest khadi tricolour in the world on the steps of the Suvarna Soudha in Belagavi on Tuesday. He congratulated the family members of Kalaburagi's Vinod Kumar Revappa Bamanna for making the flag. Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar and Speaker U T Khader are also seen.

No sand mining, removing sandbars to protect river, says govt

BENGALURU, DHNS: The state government has clarified that it has initiated measures to remove sandbars in Sharavathi, Gangavali, Kali and Aghanashini rivers in Uttara Kannada district and the same will be taken up after clearance from the environment authorities.

The Department of Mines and Geology was responding to a notice issued by the National Green Tribunal's Chennai Bench that sought an explanation over complaints of illegal sand mining in the rivers.

"Applications have been made to the Karnataka State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) for removal of sandbars in Sharavathi, Gangavali, Kali and Aghanashini rivers in Uttara Kannada district," the affidavit said. The department gave the list of eight proposals for removing sandbars in Sharavathi river, seven in Kali, four in Aghanashini and one in Gangavali river. "It is thus submitted that removal of sandbars will be carried out only after the clearance is granted by SEIAA Karnataka," it said.

Previously, officials had submitted that accumulation of sand in the river bed could lead to blockage of river channels and erosion of river banks as well as flooding.

"Therefore, the people of the district can benefit if the sand is cleared and used locally following best environmental practices to protect the environment," he said.

Lokayukta raids Ambedkar corpn over loan irregularities

BENGALURU, DHNS: Lokayukta officials on Tuesday carried out early-morning raids at the office of Ambedkar Development Corporation Limited at Shivajinagar here, over allegations of large-scale corruption in sanctioning loans.

The anti-corruption watchdog secured a search warrant from the court, Lokayukta SP Shivaprakash said. A case under Prevention of Corruption Act was registered based on a complaint by R Gururaj, alleging systematic irregularities in loans sanctioned between 2020 & 2023.

Loans meant for cooperative societies and cooperative banks were allegedly approved using forged and fabricated documents. Preliminary assessment indicates that the misappropriation could be in the range of Rs 3 crore to Rs 4 crore.

Records found

"Fake documents were created to obtain and approve these loans. During verification, we found records suggesting misappropriation," the officials said. Lokayukta officials are examining loan sanction files, digital records, financial documents and internal communication trails.

"We are scrutinising original documents and tracking the chain of approvals. Further action will be taken based on material recovered," the officials said.

Cong MLA wants Tipu Jayanti back, stirs debate

BELAGAVI, DHNS: Congress MLA Vijayanand Kashappanavar wanted to raise a calling-attention motion on Tuesday, asking the government to resume erstwhile Mysuru ruler Tipu Sultan's birth anniversary fete, reigniting a debate on the issue.

Kashappanavar's motion was listed in the day's agenda, but he was not present in the Assembly when his turn came. Minority Welfare Minister B Z Zameer Ahmed Khan said the government had no thoughts on resuming Tipu Jayanti.

"My opinion is it should not be a government event. No Muslim leader has asked for it to be restarted," he said.

Govt to develop 300 acres of MUDA land: Minister

BENGALURU, DHNS: Urban Development and Town Planning Minister B S Suresh announced in the Council that the government was all set to develop 300 acres of land under Mysore Urban Development Authority (MUDA).

Not mentioning about the MUDA case involving CM Siddaramaiah, the minister said, "The development of Mysuru city got halted for a while because of various reasons. We will soon take up development of 300 acres of land under MUDA. We are preparing a comprehensive Mysuru development plan for this purpose". He said Mysuru was the second biggest city in the state after Bengaluru and the urban development department would prioritise cleanliness.

CM writes to Modi for setting up Q-MINt in Bengaluru

BENGALURU, DHNS: Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi seeking support to establish a Quantum Materials Innovation Network (Q-MINt) in Bengaluru under the National Quantum Mission (NQM).

The initiative is proposed as a part of the state's larger plan to develop India's first Quantum City.

In his letter dated November 11, Siddaramaiah said Karnataka aims to position India as a global leader in quantum technologies by developing advanced materials essential for quantum computing, communication and sensing. He said materials research forms the backbone of strategic self-reliance, advanced manufacturing and future-ready economies.

The proposed Q-MINt is expected to leverage Bengaluru's ecosystem of premier research institutions, deep-tech startups and manufacturing capabilities to build an indigenous base of quantum-grade materials. The CM noted that the centre has already recognised materials as a critical vertical under NQM, making the proposal aligned with national priorities.

The state has sought a capital support of around Rs 150 crore under the mission for setting up distributed infrastructure to support research and industry-linked development. The project also envisions international collaborations for education, skill development and innovation.

According to the letter, Q-MINt would serve as a national resource, supporting quantum technology programmes across the country. Siddaramaiah said the initiative would help India build sovereign capability in developing quantum computers, communication networks, sensors and a skilled workforce.

Stating that Karnataka is ready to work closely with the Centre, the CM urged the Union government to back the initiative, saying it would significantly contribute to India's global competitiveness in the emerging quantum sector.

Avenues

|| Jai Sri Gurudev ||
ADICHUNCHANAGIRI UNIVERSITY
BGS Institute of Technology
(Estd. Under Karnataka Act No.18 of 2013)
BG Nagara – 571448, NH-75, Nagamangala Taluk, Mandya District
Faculty requirement

Application are invited for following positions

Professor	CSE, ISE, AIML
Associate Professor	CSE, ISE, AIML
Assistant Professor	CSE, ISE, AIML, Robotics & AI, Mathematics
Instructors	ECE, CSE, ISE, AI&ML, Mathematics

Qualification: As per AICTE norms –
Salary will be paid as per the AICTE pay scale
Attractive salary will be given for deserving candidates
Candidates may apply on or before 20-12-2025

Application should be sent by email to principal.bgsit@acu.edu.in mentioning the post applied to, 'The Principal', BGS Institute of Technology, BG Nagara–571448, NH-75, Nagamangala Taluk, Mandya Dist.

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HEARING
Hear • Connect • Live
Hear Life in High Definition!
– with Pure Charge&Go BCT IX
Advanced Technology Hearing Aids @ Affordable Prices*
36 Hours Battery Runtime
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On-The-Go Wireless Charger
SPECIAL OFFERS
Home Visits Available*
4 Years Warranty*
1000 Days Damage Protection*
No Cost EMI*
FREE HEARING TEST & TRIAL*
Date : 10th Dec - 20th Dec
92 9490 9490
Aanvii Hearing Solutions Pvt Ltd
Bannerghatta | Brookfield ITPL | Cunningham Road | CBI Road
HSR Layout | Indiranagar | Jayanagar | JP Nagar | Koramangala | Kengeri
KR Puram | Marathahalli | Nagarbhavi | Nandidurga Road | New BEL Road
Padmanabhanagar | R.R.Nagar | Sahakaranagar | Sanjaynagar | Vijayanagar
Vivek Nagar | Vidyaranyapura | Thanisandra | Whitefield | Yelahanka
T&C Apply*

Many turn to road, rail amid IndiGo crisis

Some are travelling not just to Chennai, Hyderabad and Kochi, but also to more distant cities like Indore, Kolkata and Delhi

BARKHA KUMARI
TEAM METROLIFE

Flight disruptions, lost luggage, and soaring fares triggered by the ongoing IndiGo airlines crisis are pushing Bengalureans to travel by road and train. Their trips range from short 350 km hauls to Mangaluru to long journeys of 1,500-2,145 km to Delhi, Kolkata, and Ahmedabad.

Although ceramic artiste Kshitija Mitter was scheduled to fly to Pune on Tuesday, she arrived a day early by road. She hitched a 13-hour ride with a fellow potter she met at a weekend bazaar in Bengaluru. The latter was driving to Mumbai in her car, and Pune was en route. "An hour after arriving, I got a notification that my IndiGo flight for the next day was cancelled. At least I will be refunded," she says. Another potter who had travelled from Chennai to Bengaluru by train was stranded on his return journey. His family sent a car with a driver to bring him back.

Others, like communications professional Shruthi Mohan, hit the road to catch flights from alternate cities. She was scheduled to fly from Mangaluru to Delhi last Friday. But with delays mounting, she began scrambling to book

Content creator Priyanka Prasad will ride over 14 hours from Bengaluru to Panchgani, Maharashtra, to attend a bike expo. She recently missed an event in Goa due to flight cancellations.

flights on other airlines from Mumbai, Kochi, and Bengaluru. "Eventually, I took an overnight bus to Bengaluru. My parents live there and I figured I could rest before flying," she says. She spent an extra Rs 4,000 on the new ticket but was refunded for her cancelled IndiGo flight.

Rental surge

Between December 2 and 7, Savaari Car Rentals saw a 70% rise in one-way bookings from Bengaluru to Coimbatore, Hyderabad, Mangaluru, Kochi, Chennai, and Puducherry. Demand also jumped for longer routes, including Bengaluru to Indore and Bengaluru to Kolkata, and inbound trips from Varanasi, Ahmedabad, and Chandigarh.

While Carzonrent has seen a 7% postponement in business trip bookings, rentals for personal travel from Bengaluru rose nearly 20% to Mangaluru, Hyderabad, Ooty, Goa, and Chennai.

Call2Cabs saw a spike in last-minute bookings from Bengaluru to Mangaluru, Goa, Anantapur, Hyderabad, Pune, and even as far as Gujarat. "We even had a booking from Delhi to Bengaluru. Most trips were for personal reasons, including attending a funeral," says owner Siddaraju.

Amid the crisis, car rental prices have reportedly risen; 20% on one platform *Metrolife* spoke to.

Upcoming trips

Travel content creator Priyanka Prasad has opted for a demanding contingency. On December 18, she and an automobile enthusiast will embark on a 14-hour bike ride from Bengaluru to Panchgani, Maharashtra for a bike expo. "This month alone, I lost a major opportunity at an event in Goa because my flight was cancelled. Such things affect our income," says the seasoned biker.

Druvan S's family had planned a three-day trip to Puri Jagannath in

Druvan S and his family are now planning to drive to Puri Jagannath in Odisha and back. This has added two extra days to their itinerary.

Odisha by flight. They have now added two extra days to the itinerary. They will drive over 1,200 km each way.

On December 24, vocalist Raghavendran V, who collects flags, plans to hire a chauffeur to drive him in his own car to Udupi. He is restricted by mobility challenges. "Only last year, after three corrective surgeries, I started flying, and found it quick and easy. Now I am forced to travel by road. It will be a 10-12 hour journey. Potholes won't be easy on my body. But other flights are too expensive," he says.

No regrets

For some, the shift has rekindled a fondness for land travel. Environmentalist Alexander James and his family will travel by train from Bengaluru to Delhi and back for a wedding. The journey will take roughly a day and a half each way."My mother, a senior citizen, did not want to fly. But the moment we decided to travel by train, she agreed," he says.

A flight cancellation forced author Milan Vohra to book an overnight bus from Hyderabad to Bengaluru to make it in time for her book launch. The scramble for trains and buses was stressful, especially because she has some degree of vision loss, but it rekindled the confidence she once had as a solo traveller. She now cherishes the unplanned human moments that unfolded along the way: a cabbie who dropped her on Hyderabad's outskirts to catch her bus, tea stall owners who helped soothe her sore throat, and an auto driver in Bengaluru who turned off the music because he saw she was falling asleep.

Kshitija's hitchhiking experience was also memorable. "We saw thick fog, fields of sunflowers and maize, and lots of windmills. At Karad in Maharashtra, I tried traditional pithla-bhakri at a wada (courtyard mansion)," she says.

Your rights if an airline cancels your flight

If the airline informs you about the cancellation within 24 hours of the scheduled departure, it is not liable to pay compensation. But you are entitled to an alternative flight or a full refund.

If the airline fails to inform you within 24 hours of the scheduled departure, you are entitled to an alternative flight, or compensation, in addition to a full refund.

Compensation rates

- Flight duration of up to one hour: Rs 5,000, or the basic fare plus airline fuel charge (whichever is less).
- Flight duration between one hour and two hours: Rs 7,500 or the basic fare plus airline fuel charge (whichever is less).
- Flight duration longer than two hours: Rs 10,000 or the basic fare plus airline fuel charge (whichever is less).

If the alternative flight leaves within an hour of the scheduled and cancelled flight, you get no compensation.

If the alternative flight does not leave within an hour of the scheduled and cancelled flight, compensation can go up to 400% of the basic fare plus airline fuel charge, subject to a maximum of Rs 20,000.

Food and stay

The airline is mandated to provide meals and refreshments when you wait for an alternative flight at the airport. If you wait overnight, the airline must provide hotel accommodation and airport transfers.

If you are denied these rights — airlines mostly cite 'technical' or 'operational' reasons to avoid paying compensation — you can approach a consumer court, which can penalise errant airlines and award compensation.

How Freedom Park was spruced up

Built in 1867, it served as the State Central Prison until 2003

RASHMI RAJAGOPAL
TEAM METROLIFE

Freedom Park, the sprawling former central jail, made for an apt venue for the recently concluded Bangalore Literature Festival. The Festival was held at the Park, on Seshadri Road, for the first time in its 14-year history.

Over 20 acres of land was transformed with help from the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA), says V Ravichandar who drove the project. He hopes the success of the festival will pave the way for the space to become a cultural hub.

"For the past one-and-a-half years, I have been urging the government to spruce up the place so that the city can make better use of it. Serious work on it began in April this year," reveals Ravichandar, who is a part of the organising team of the literature festival and the BLR Hubba.

First built in 1867, it served as the State Central Jail until 2003. In 2003, the jail was relocated to its current location in Parappana Agrahara.

Ravichandar was a part of the Bangalore Agenda Task Force (BATF) which was led by Nandan Nilekani and included others like Kalpana Kar and Naresh Narasimhan. BATF, which functioned from 1999 to 2004, aimed to turn the old jail into an events space. The renovation was taken up by Mathew and Ghosh Architects. The park, as it stands now, is a result of the work these architects put in back in 2003, Ravichandar tells *Metrolife*. But when BATF closed down, the park lost a custodian. "BATF had ideas for how the park could be best put to use, but without anyone to take custody of it, it was languishing for over a decade," he shares.

About 10 years ago, they carried out some basic work to make it usable for events. Since then, a few events have been held, but they were mostly by the government. The ground outside the park has been used for protests. But the park itself was largely unused.

The large campus, which has a 'panopticon' design, comprises a watchtower, barracks, cells, a hospital block and gallows. The circular design allowed prison officers to keep track of the entire complex from the watchtower.

For the literature festival, the barracks, amphitheatre and the lawns adjacent to the watchtower were converted into stages. The hospital block was turned into a lounge for authors and speakers at the festival. Soft lighting, framed artwork and carefully chosen furniture made it almost impossible to imagine it as a hospital for prisoners. "All the buildings were in poor condition. Some of the buildings were being used as urinals, others were covered in pigeon droppings and were completely occupied by the birds," Ravichandar recalls.

The biggest undertaking was constructing toilets. "We dug up the grounds to lay sewage lines. Around half a kilometre of sewage lines has been laid," Ravichandar says. They also laid walkways and evened out the land to make it more accessible for wheelchair users, buggies and senior citizens. "Earlier it was just undulating land, making access challenging," he shares.

Ravichandar believes there is still a lot of scope for improvement. "We should work towards making it more disability friendly and adding a bit more greenery," he says, adding that the park is in dire need of a custodian to prevent it from falling back into disrepair.

The watchtower at Freedom Park was the backdrop of one of the stages at the Bangalore Literature Festival. DH PHOTO/PRASHANTH H G

Rs 5 cr for revamp

The government has spent about Rs 5 crore to complete a basic revamp of the park, says Rajendra Cholan P, Bengaluru Central City Corporation Commissioner. "About 95 per cent of the work has been completed. The park holds great historic significance. So we have taken this up in a big way and plan to set up a playing area for kids, among other things. We will hire a consultant to give us a detailed master plan to see how we can make the best use of it," he adds.

EVENTS

Film screening
Inquilab di Kheti' (Farming the Revolution), a documentary about the year-long farmers' protests, will be screened on December 10, 6.30 pm at Bangalore International Centre, Domlur. It will be followed by a session with director Nishtha Jain. Entry free. RSVP mandatory.

Book discussion
A discussion between Kalpana Karunakaran and Mary E John on the former's book 'A Woman of No Consequence' will be held on December 11, 6.30 pm at Sabha Blr, Kamaraj Road. Entry free. Registration mandatory.

Memorial lecture
Rajdeep Manwani will deliver the 21st General K S Thimayya Memorial Lecture on December 13, 10.30 am, at Rajendra Sinhji Army Officers Institute, M G Road. Dr Anand Vinekar of Narayana Nethralaya, will be bestowed the General K S Thimayya Medal. To RSVP, write to trustees@genthimayya.org

Can apartments penalise you for hosting guests?

Legal experts say it is a grey area. They insist all rules must align with Constitutional rights

TINI SARA ANIEN
TEAM METROLIFE

Experts say resident welfare associations (RWAs) cannot make by-laws that discriminate on the basis of gender and marital status, or define who residents can host. However, in the absence of a clear regulatory framework or authority, some associations impose arbitrary fines and penalties.

A recent viral Reddit post claims a bachelor in Bengaluru was fined Rs 5,000 by his housing society for hosting two female guests at night. Multiple users deemed the incident unfair and a breach of privacy, and advised him to seek legal recourse.

'UK bars discriminatory access'

Advocate Indra Dhanush says such rules fall into a "grey area". He notes that while housing societies can frame their own by-laws, they cannot enforce rules that curtail an individual's constitutional privileges. He advises tenants to review the by-laws before signing a rental agreement.

Advocate Mrudula Vanangamudi says RWAs often justify restrictions on overnight guests or strict surveillance as "security" measures, but such rules raise serious privacy concerns. She cites cases where residents opposed compulsory entry-exit tracking, including biometric access. "A client asked, 'Why should anyone, including one's spouse, know when one enters or leaves the building?" she says. India lacks comprehensive anti-discrimination protections in housing, unlike the UK's Equality Act, 2010, which bars discriminatory access, she adds.

Arbitrary fines and penalties are imposed on residents due to the lack of a clear regulatory framework, say experts. DH PHOTO/PUSHKAR V

Other cases

Such disputes rarely reach court and are usually settled through mediation or legal notices.

Advocate Anubha Srivastava, who handles housing cases, says, "Tenants rarely take legal action because of the costs involved. Many just pay fines to avoid trouble, as landlords can ask them to vacate."

Recently, when her college-going son visited a friend at an apartment near Nagasandra, the guard took his ID card. "After 9 pm, visitors to bachelor flats weren't allowed. This wasn't a written rule, just a practice," she says.

Dhanush recalls a 2023 case in Jayanagar where a landlord banned all overnight guests, citing water charges and extra usage. "He even demanded higher rent and per-head water charges when friends stayed for group study," Dhanush says. After mediation, the landlord allowed limited overnight stays — up to two guests at a time, with no more than five people in the flat.

Federation says...

Satish Mallya, president of the Bangalore Apartments Federation (BAF), says most conflicts between residents and associations stem from the absence of a clear regulatory framework. "The Karnataka Apartment Ownership Act, 1972, has never been amended. There is no competent authority for residents or owners to approach when issues arise," he says.

BAF has been pushing for a "new and modern" apartment law with model by-laws and a formal dispute-resolution system. "A draft is already under consideration," he adds.

What to do

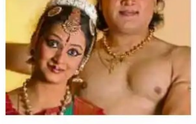
To contest a fine, Anubha says, the first step is to send a legal notice demanding its withdrawal. For other discriminatory practices, a resident can file a case in the city civil court, or approach the Registrar of Societies.

Dance festival to honour Kiran Subramanyam and Sandhya Kiran

ANUSHA MARY JONES
TEAM METROLIFE

The Nruthya Neerajana Dance Festival, annually hosted by Ananya GML Cultural Academy, will be held on Sunday.

The festival aims to honour individuals who have contributed to the development, learning and sanctity of traditional dance forms in India with the Ananya Puraskar award.



The recipients this year are Bharatanatyam dancers Kiran Subramanyam and Sandhya Kiran, founders of Rasika Arts Foundation. They have dedicated the past 40 years to this field. The festival will also feature a performance by their disciples, with rare compositions such as the 'Nandi Chol', a tribute to the divine bull (Shiva's vahana), 'Soordas Bhajan', a depiction of Krishna convincing Yashoda of the missing butter and a dramatic segment of 'Kalinga Narthana Thillana'.

"My goal was to make Bharatanatyam a fad," Kiran Subramanyam tells *Metrolife*. "In the beginning of my journey, society would look down on me for being a male dancer, but now it's great to see how times have changed," he says, adding, "Bengaluru has the second highest number of male dancers."

On December 14, 6 pm at Seva Sadan, Malleswaram. Entry free.

Tharoor's defence of B'luru slang sparks debate

The politician defended the 'dialect' at a recent literary event

SHRADDHA A K
TEAM METROLIFE

A viral Instagram reel of Shashi Tharoor validating Bengaluru's English slang at the recent Bangalore Literature Festival has sparked debate. The city's "Bangalore English" is often trolled online for being "incorrect".

In the reel, which has 1.8 million views, Tharoor responds to an audience member who says 'Bangalore English' is used commonly among friend groups but can sound odd at first. Tharoor responds by saying "never encountered Bangalore English", but adds that "nothing is wrong if it is understood", noting that "as long as the expression means the same thing" to the speaker and the listener, it is not wrong.

The video has triggered debate online and offline, with many Bengalureans celebrating Tharoor's stance and others arguing that "original Bangaloreans don't talk like that" and that the slang comes from "outsiders". The dialect, widely used among the city's youth, includes phrases like "put off one scene" (let's hang out), "got belted/thulped" (got into trouble), and "let's dip" (let's leave).

Shashi Tharoor at a session at the Bangalore Literature Festival on Saturday.

Metrolife spoke to English-language experts about Bengaluru's unique slang. Literary critic G N Devy explains that each generation reshapes language by adding or removing words based on culture and context. "Slang is essential, like a fresh coat of paint on an old house — it prevents the language from becoming stagnant," he says, adding that Bengaluru English is a smaller dialect of Indian English.

B N Balajee, a retired English professor from Mysuru, describes English as "a potpourri of languages", noting its long history of borrowing from various cultures. He sees Bangalore English in the same light, saying it "creates intimacy by blending words from English and Kannada". Suchismita Chaudhari, English teacher at Bishop Cotton Boys' School, notes that many of her students use Bengaluru slang informally but are also fluent in formal English. While she encourages self-expression, she suggests "alternative phrases for exams to prevent slang from affecting their written assignments".

Etienne Rassendren, a retired English professor, observes that spoken English is based on local influences. Every dialect, he says, has its own "colloquialism". He believes that as long as people are understood and accepted, "they are free to express themselves however they can".

Bengalureans have mixed opinions. Karthik Sethunarayan, a city native, describes the slang as "a direct translation of Kannada," citing examples like "simp-simply" (sum-sumne) and "like that only" (hage ne). While outsiders may find it odd, he notes that bilingual speakers often blend languages, typically among close friends. "Otherwise, most people stick to standard spoken English."

Social media personalities feel...

Metrolife spoke to Bengaluru-based social media personalities who use Bangalore English in their content. Poorav S, posting as @pooodup on Instagram, believes Bangalore English simplifies communication, citing phrases like "put scene" instead of "let's hang out". Though he hasn't faced online backlash, people are often surprised he uses the slang outside of his videos.

Stand-up comedian Sachin Kumar, known as @gommaboy, credits the mix of cultures in Bengaluru for creating "Bangalore English," though he notes many avoid it because it's seen as "too local". Instagram personality Selwyn D'souza, who posts as @sellydsouzaaa on Instagram, says the slang naturally comes from living in the city, "helps people connect, break the ice, and creates a sense of belonging".

Ikyatha Yerasala, known for her Instagram page @Slangaluru, posts about the meanings behind Bengaluru slang, noting that while many relate to her content, others reject it, claiming "original Bangaloreans" don't use it.

TDR may lose sheen as GBA begins accepting premium FAR applications

HC nod paves way; set to reshape city growth

BENGALURU, DHNS

Nearly eight months after the government notified the premium Floor Area Ratio (FAR) policy, the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) has begun accepting applications from builders seeking additional floors by paying 28% of the guidance value.

The move follows the high court's dismissal of two writ petitions challenging the constitutional validity of the amendment and related notification.

Under the policy, builders may load an additional 0.4 FAR (40% extra built-up area) by purchasing premium FAR, calculated on the property's guidance value. A further 0.2 FAR (20% extra built-up area) may be availed through Transferable Development Rights (TDR). In total, the policy permits up to 0.6 FAR, allowing 60% more built-up space.

However, not all builders can utilise the full 0.6 FAR; eligibility depends on the width of the abutting road. Roads 9–12 metres wide allow a maximum of 0.2 FAR, roads 12–18 metres allow 0.4 FAR, and roads over 18 metres can avail the full 0.6 FAR.

Officials said the policy aims to maximise the use of limited land by encouraging high-rise construction. However, they acknowledged concerns that additional vertical development could strain already burdened infrastructure such as water supply and sewer lines.

In a press note, the GBA said developers can request premium FAR at the time of submitting building plan applications. "The GBA will display the premium FAR charges along with the building fees," officials said, adding that a new software system has been introduced to streamline the process.

The authority expects to generate about Rs 2,000 crore in additional revenue, which will be shared across all five corporations.

With premium FAR now easier to obtain, officials said TDR certificates, issued to landowners who part with land for public projects, may lose value, especially since they are already difficult to procure.

GBA mulls running Nandini outlets within Indira Canteens

BENGALURU, DHNS

Indira Canteens, launched with much fanfare, are fast losing their original purpose.

Amid complaints of poor service and falling footfall, the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) plans to use part of the premises for commercial activities, including state-run Nandini outlets. The proposal aims to make better use of valuable real estate.

GBA Chief Commissioner M Maheshwar Rao said the authority is studying the possibility of providing space in Indira Canteen premises for the Karnataka Milk Federation, whose Nandini brand is well-known for dairy products. "We will soon prepare a proposal and seek government approval," he said.

He said Indira Canteens are generally active only two to three hours a day, during mealtimes. "We want to make the best use of valuable construction and real estate by accommodating other activities. Nandini outlets are one such option. We are not considering allowing private restaurants for now," he said.

Within the GBA limits, there are about 250 Indira Canteens. Some are not in operation, but the authority continues to subsidise food, spending several crores. There have been allegations of overbilling and poor quality, though the scheme was introduced to benefit the working class.

Pension adalat on Monday

BENGALURU, DHNS: Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC), Bengaluru, part of ISRO, Department of Space, will hold a pension adalat on Monday at Netravathy Conference Hall, LPSC Bengaluru.

Pensioners and family pensioners of LPSC Bengaluru can approach Senior Administrative Officer, LPSC Bengaluru, by post or email sado@lpscb.gov.in, by Wednesday.

Government of Jharkhand
Department of School Education and Literacy
(Jharkhand Education Project Council, Ranchi)
J.S.C.A. Stadium Road, Sector.-III, Dhurwa, Ranchi-834004 Phone: 0651-2444501, E-Mail: jepcranchi1@gmail.com

e-Procurement Notice

JEPC invites Separate Technical & Financial Bids through from eligible and interested contractors for Construction Of 04, 05, 08, 11 & 17 A.C.Rin Govt. School in Deoghar district of Jharkhand. Interested and eligible bidders are requested to submit their proposal latest by 24.12.2025 at 2.00 PM.

The details of tender document can be seen and applied through website http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in only.

Sd/-
State Project Director
Jharkhand Education Project Council

Ref. No.: **JEPC/CIV/03/1745/2025/6188** Ranchi, Date: -08.12.2025

PR.NO.368110 Jharkhand Education Project Council(25-26):D

Speeding govt vehicle gets stuck on Mysuru Rd median, triggers traffic jam

BENGALURU, DHNS

The SUV wedged atop a divider after the driver loses control while overtaking. DH PHOTO/PUSHKAR V

Traffic came to a standstill on the busy Mysuru Road flyover on Tuesday afternoon after a speeding government Bolero SUV lost control and got wedged on the concrete divider.

The incident, which occurred around 2.45 pm, caused a major traffic jam.

According to the Chamarajpet traffic police, the driver was attempting to overtake when he lost control of the vehicle, resulting in the car getting wedged firmly atop the divider.

The police quickly deployed their Cobra team to manage the situation. Within 20 minutes, police cleared the obstruction and eased congestion on the flyover.

Police officials confirmed that the driver was not under the influence of alcohol and, fortunately, neither the driver nor any passengers in the vehicle sustained any injuries.

BDA clears encroachment on CA site in AECS Layout

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Bangalore Development Authority on Tuesday reclaimed nearly 8,000 sqft of encroached land on a Civic Amenity site in AECS Layout, Kundalahalli.

The recovered property is valued at Rs 25 crore, and several illegal structures that had come up on the site were demolished during the drive.

Residents said some individuals, claiming to be office-bearers of the defunct AECS Layout Association, constructed unlawful buildings on the site and rented it out for commercial use.

IMPROVEMENT WORKS AT KATIHAR DIVISION

E-Tender Notice No. 19-IMP-LAUNDRY-KIR-25 dated: 06-12-2025. E-Tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following works: **Name of work:** At Katihar: Improvement work in connection with upgradation of Mechanized Laundry/Katihar. **Tender Value:** ₹1,67,52,576.44/-. **Earnest Money:** ₹2,33,800/-. **Date & Time of closing of tender:** At **15.00** hrs. **& opened at 15.30** hrs. on **29-12-2025.** The complete information of above e-tender will be available in website **www.ireps.gov.in**

Sr. DME/Katihar
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
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AIR FORCE TECHNICAL COLLEGE, JALAHALLI WEST, BANGALORE-15
INVITES APPLICATION FOR ALLOTMENT OF SI REGIMENTAL SHOP

1. Commandant, Air Force Technical College invites application from war widows/ widows of defence personnel killed while on duty, disabled soldier/ ex servicemen and spouse/ widows of ex-serviceman and civilian for running following SI Regimental Shop at Air Force Technical College Campus :-

Shop No.	Name of Shop	Electricity and water Supply	Monthly Rebate	Security Deposit Amount
7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 17 & 18	To run the shop like Fruit and Juice Shop, Electric & Electronic, Stationery Shop, Grocery shop, Garment shop, Tea/Coffee point, Restaurant, etc	As per consumption	Shop will be allotted to highest bidder, subject to Minimum reserve price fixed by BOO	Security Deposit 1. for Rebate equal to three times of monthly rebate and 2. Rs. 3000 for rent & allied charges
	Dhobi Ghat / Dhobi Services			

2. As per policy, 100% reservation for allotment of regimental shop is available for **war widows/ widows of defence personnel killed while on duty, disabled soldier/ ex servicemen and spouse/ widows of ex-serviceman.** However in case of nil application from reserved category, the shop will be allotted to civilian for a period of six months and further extension subject to fulfilling the terms and condition of contract agreement.
3. The initial period of contract, commencing from 01 Jan 26 will be for 11 months and further extension up to 5 years on fulfilling the terms and condition of the contract agreement.
4. Interested persons having experience in running the similar facility with high standard of cleanliness and hygiene may apply. Applicant should not be above the age of 60 years. Proof of age is required to be produced.
5. Application forms can be obtained from Service Institute, AFTC on payment of Rs. 200/-between 0900 hrs to 1400 hrs on all working days.
6. Detailed Instructions / guidelines for filling up the applications will be provided with application form. Application duly completed in all respect including bid amount to be kept in envelop duly marked boldly as **"APPLICATION FOR ALLOTMENT OF REGIMENTAL SHOP"**. The envelop may be dropped in the tender box kept at Main Guard room or sent through post to **OIC SI Fund, Air Force Technical College,** Jalahalli West Bangalore -15 so as to reach latest by 0900 hrs on 26 Dec 25. The application will be opened by Board of offices in presence of applicants / representatives at 1030 hrs on 26 Dec 25 in SI Office.

MG Road to be dug up for first time in 40 years

NAVEEN MENEZES
BENGALURU, DHNS

Bengaluru's iconic MG Road will be dug up for the first time in about four decades to lay new water and sanitary lines.

The Bengaluru Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) has proposed replacing the existing lines, which are corroding and causing leakages and water contamination. The work, likely to begin after Republic Day, may continue for several months.

The BWSSB will lay water and sanitary lines on both sides, between Brigade Road and Trinity Circle. Towards Anil Kumble Circle, only one side will be dug up, as there are no establishments on the opposite side. The water board is expected to acquire about 10 feet of road space—roughly one lane—on each side for the work.

The BWSSB finalised the action plan after the Bengaluru Central City Corporation decided to white-top MG Road (2.2 km) at a cost of Rs 45 crore. Both works are interconnected. The water board can only take up the replacement before the white-topping project — approved in June last year—begins.

Shantinagar MLA NA Harris, however, is not fully convinced about white-topping MG Road, as the work could take several months and traffic disruptions could be enormous. "We do not want to take up any work until the New Year and Republic Day celebrations are over," he said.

A meeting chaired by Tushar Girinath, Additional Chief Secretary of the Urban Development Department (UDD), discussed the proposed white-topping project on MG Road.

Officials preferred laying a fresh coat of tar using Stone Matrix Asphalt (SMA) technology, as the work can be completed faster and the results last longer.

40-year promise

A senior BWSSB official said the water and sanitary lines on MG Road were laid about 40 years ago. "We have been receiving complaints about contamination. Once the new lines are laid, they will not need replacement for another 40 years," he said.

Another official added that the work also includes fixing water lines to the military and police establishments.

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2	Dy. General Manager (HR & Admn)	E5 (₹80,000 – 3% – 2,20,000)	03	Head Office, NHIDCL at New Delhi
3	General Manager (Fin. & Accounts)	E6 (₹90,000 – 3% – 2,40,000)	02	Head Office, NHIDCL at New Delhi
4	Dy. General Manager (Fin. & Accounts)	E5 (₹80,000 – 3% – 2,20,000)	05	3 Posts at Head Office, NHIDCL at New Delhi 1 Post at RO Guwahati, Assam 1 Post at RO Siliguri, West Bengal
5	Dy. General Manager (LA)	E5 (₹80,000 – 3% – 2,20,000)	02	1 Post at Head Office, NHIDCL at New Delhi 1 Post at RO, Guwahati, Assam

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International Human Rights Day Celebration: Centre for the Defence of Democratic Rights and Secularism; Freedom Park; 11 am.

Vinayak Vidya Sanstha Golden Jubilee Year Celebration: Sri Vinayaka Kannada and English Medium School, VS Krishna Iyer Combined Pre-University College; Kempegowda Playground, Shankarnag Circle; 6.30 pm.

CULTURAL

Dr SL Bhyrappa Commemoration: Hindustani Classical Music Concert; 'Dr SL Bhyrappa's Various Faces of Literary Contributions–An Overview'; Sanskriti Sambhrama, Azim Premji University; Indian Institute of World Culture, BP Wadia Road, Basavanagudi; 5.30 pm.

Kannada play: 'Mussanjeyalli Nadeda Ghatane'; Ranga Shankara, JP Nagar; 7.30 pm.

CITY WEATHER

FORECAST
Mist

TEMPERATURES

Maximum	27.6°C
Minimum	16.1°C
Rainfall (as of 8:30 am)	--
Humidity (as of 5:30 pm)	35%
Sunset (Dec 10)	5:53 pm
Sunrise (Dec 11)	6:13 am
Moonrise	10:30 pm
Moonset	10:38 am

(Relevant data recorded at 5.30 pm) Source: IMD

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518 RSS route marches held in K'taka without incidence: HM

'Special action force helped curb crime in coast'

BELAGAVI, DHNS

The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) took out 518 pathasanchalans (route marches) across Karnataka in 2025 and none led to any "fighting, rioting or communal violence," Home Minister G Parameshwara told the Assembly on Tuesday.

About 2.37 lakh swayamsevaks participated in these route marches, according to Parameshwara's written reply to Karkala BJP MLA V Sunil Kumar.

The RSS, which is BJP's ideological parent, completed 100 years on October 2, which was Vijayadashami. It took out route marches as part of its centenary celebrations.

However, two days after the RSS celebrated its centenary, Panchayat Raj Minister Priyank Kharge wrote to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah seeking a ban on the activities of the Hindu nationalist organisation in public places.

The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, the BJP's ideological parent, completed 100 years on October 2 this year, the Vijayadashami day. It took out route marches at various places as part of its centenary celebrations. DH FILE PHOTO

On October 18, the government issued an omnibus order making 'prior permission' mandatory for any private organisation, association or group of persons to use government property or premises.

While it did not specifically name RSS, the order contained enough provisions to impact the saffron outfit's activities. The High Court, however, stayed the order.

Bengaluru saw the highest number of RSS route marches at 97, in which 27,338-30,233 swayamsevaks participated, the home minister said.

Coming second was Kalaburagi, Kharge's turf, where the RSS conducted 51 marches, involving 6,340-7,235 swayamsevaks.

Uttara Kannada (45), Bidar (41) and Bagalkot (33) districts also saw RSS marches involving up to 7,000-20,000 swayamsevaks.

Hubballi-Dharwad, Kolar Gold Fields and Kodagu had the lowest number of RSS marches at two each.

There were 14,600-15,000 swayamsevaks who marched in Hubballi-Dharwad.

In Kodagu, the turnout was 1,650-1,700. At KGF, however, only 430 swayamsevaks showed up.

'Special force working'

To another question by Moodbidri BJP MLA Umanath Kotian, the minister said crimes had decreased after the government constituted a Special Action Force in the communally-sensitive coastal region.

"Crimes have come down and people have appreciated it," he said.

In the Moodbidri police station, Parameshwara said there were 224 cases last year.

The number is down to 174 this year. At Mulki, the number of crimes is down to 121 from 149, the minister said.

BJP, Congress spar over Gruha Lakshmi scheme

BELAGAVI, DHNS: The ruling Congress and the Opposition BJP on Tuesday crossed swords in the Legislative Assembly over the efficacy of the Gruha Lakshmi guarantee scheme of the Congress that provides Rs 2,000 to female heads of the household.

Speaking on the issues related to North Karnataka, Leader of the Opposition R Ashoka said: "The chief minister always speaks about having given Rs 2,000 (to each woman). Where have you given Rs 2,000? The husband would drink; you have taxed Rs 2,000 on liquor and given it to the lady. I will give statistics, you have increased by Rs 50-60 per quarter."

Congress leader and Chief Minister's Economic Advisor Basavaraj Rayareddi noted that the number of people who drink had increased by 1.6 times in Bengaluru, but added that it had decreased in North Karnataka.

Later, during the calling attention motion, Hubli-Dharwad constituency MLA Mahesh Tenginkai asked Women and Child Development Minister Laxmi Hebbalkar why Gruha Lakshmi beneficiaries had not received funds for February and March.

Responding to this, Hebbalkar noted that money had been given in 23 instalments (Rs 46,000 to each beneficiary) since the Congress came to power and added that money had been given till August.

The minister said that earlier there had been some technical issues, since money — earlier given directly — was being sent through taluk panchayats.

"We send the file to the Finance Department. Whenever the department clears, the money is given without wasting a moment," she added.

Central jail jammers issue: HM to hold meeting on Dec 22

BELAGAVI, DHNS: Home Minister G Parameshwara told the Legislative Assembly on Tuesday that he would hold a meeting on December 22 to discuss the issue of civilians being unable to use their mobile phones due to the jammers installed at the Parappana Agrahara Central Prison in Bengaluru.

He was responding to a question during the calling attention motion by Bangalore South MLA M Krishnappa.

No connectivity

"Around 10,000 people are living there. It's close to Electronics City. Schools and colleges are situated there. Due to this jammer, no one is getting phone connection. However, there are news items everyday that those inside the prison are making calls... " Krishnappa said.

Parameshwara explained that the Parappana Agrahara prison was on the city's outskirts when it was built.

Periodic raids

"There are 19 jammers inside the prison. But, as you said, they spoil jammers sometimes and phones go in somehow. We have conducted periodic raids, confiscated phones and are stopping it. However, if people outside need to use the phones, we need to make the jammers defunct, which we cannot do. "

However, the home minister said he held four meetings with four service providers - Airtel, BSNL, VI and Jio - on how the frequency can be reduced and people outside can be allowed to use phones.

Parameshwara said he would hold another meeting in this regard on December 22.

Govt drops plan to purchase helicopter

BELAGAVI, DHNS: The state government has shelved its plan to purchase or obtain a helicopter on lease, and instead decided to continue with the existing renting of chopper.

However, the renting will be done by floating tenders. The decision was arrived at a Cabinet sub-committee meeting on special flights and helicopters to VIPs and VVIPs during emergencies. The committee is chaired by Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar.

The government has decided to obtain the services of high-quality helicopters and special aircraft on a rental basis for travel. Helicopters and special aircraft will not be purchased, he said.

"We had requested HAL to provide helicopter service. They said it would take time. Helicopters are being manufactured at HAL itself. The helicopter manufactured by HAL are of very good quality. Hence, we had requested their services. But as there will be delay in getting their services, HAL recommended a company," he informed.

Shivakumar said that the tenders have been invited for this purpose.

"Next Monday or Tuesday we will hold another round of meeting. We will consider those who have provided good service to other governments. For us, both safety and government money are important," Shivakumar said.

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ಮೆ. ವಿಸ್ತಂ ಸೆಕ್ಯೂರಿಟಿ ಸರ್ವೀಸಸ್

ನಂ. 106, 1ನೇ ಮಹಡಿ, 40 ಅಡಿ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಮಂಜುನಾಥನಗರ, ವೆಸ್ಟ್ ಆಫ್ ಕಾರ್ಡ್ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560010.

ಹೊರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ವಿವಿಧ ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳ ನೇಮಕಾತಿ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಮಾಲಿನ್ಯ ನಿಯಂತ್ರಣ ಮಂಡಳಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ರಾಜ್ಯಾದ್ಯಂತ ಖಾಲಿ ಇರುವ ವಿವಿಧ ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳನ್ನು ಹೊರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡಲು ಮೆ॥ ವಿಸ್ತಮ್ ಸೆಕ್ಯೂರಿಟಿ ಸರ್ವೀಸಸ್ ವತಿಯಿಂದ ಅರ್ಹ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಂದ ನೇರ ಸಂದರ್ಶನಕ್ಕೆ ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ.	ಹುದ್ದೆಯ ವಿವರ	ಅರ್ಹತೆ (Qualification)	ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ
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3.	ಫೈರ್‌ಮ್ಯಾನ್ (ಟೆಕ್)	ಫೈರ್ ಮತ್ತು ಸೇಫ್ಟಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಡಿಪ್ಲೊಮಾ ಅಥವಾ ತತ್ಸಮಾನ ಅರ್ಹತೆ.	1
4.	ಟ್ಯಾಲಿ ಕನ್ಸಲ್ಟೆಂಟ್	ಟ್ಯಾಲಿಯೊಂದಿಗೆ ಬಿ.ಕಾಂ (B.Com)	1
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7.	ಡಾಟಾ ಎಂಟ್ರಿ ಆಪರೇಟರ್	ದ್ವಿತೀಯ ಪಿಯುಸಿ (12ನೇ) ಪಾಸ್ ಮತ್ತು ಇಂಗ್ಲೀಷ್ ಹಾಗೂ ಕನ್ನಡ ಟೈಪಿಂಗ್ (ಸೀನಿಯರ್) ಜೊತೆಗೆ ಕಂಪ್ಯೂಟರ್ ಜ್ಞಾನ.	54
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12.	ಪಿಯೋನ್ (ಜವಾನರು)	ಎಸ್.ಎಸ್.ಎಲ್.ಸಿ ಪಾಸ್, ಕನ್ನಡ ಓದಲು ಮತ್ತು ಬರೆಯಲು ಬರುವುದು ಕಡ್ಡಾಯ.	81
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		ಒಟ್ಟು	547

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CHANGE OF NAME
I, **RAJSHEKHAR**, resident of No.176, Bashirapur, Bidar, Karnataka-585227, have changed my name to **RAJSHEKHAR G K** vide affidavit dated: 08.12.2025 before advocate and notary H.R. Karunakara, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **ANISHA H CHANDIRAMANI**, residing in flat no. I-75, Diamond District, Old Airport Road, Bengaluru - 560008, have changed my name to **ANISHA CHANDIRAMANI** vide affidavit dated 02.12.2025 before notary Bhagya Kumari N, Bengaluru. Henceforth I shall be called **ANISHA CHANDIRAMANI** only

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **DEEPAK S GOWDA**, residing at No. 19, 13th Cross, Opp:Creative School, Lottegollahalli, RMV 2nd Stage, Bengaluru - 560094, have changed my name to **DEEPAN CHAKRAVARTHI S** vide affidavit dated 06.11.2025 before notary Jalandhara, Bengaluru. Henceforth I shall be called **DEEPAN CHAKRAVARTHI S** only.

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DOCUMENT LOST
I, **GOVARDHINI THOTAMBILU**, residing at # Flat No. C003, Raja Prakruthi Aprt., # 157, 10th C Main, 4th Cross, Jayanagar 1st Block, Bangalore- 560011, have lost my **Original Sale Deed Document No./ Identification: 3672/90-91, Book No.1, Volume 3724, Date:05-04-1991.** While in transit. If found please contact: **8660307271**

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I, Vijayamma, R/at # 12, 25 feet SS Puram, Halasuru, Bengaluru. have lost my **Original Gift deed of Nararimhaiah to Lavanya Document No/ identification : 684/09-10 & Gift Deed from Narasimhaiah Vijayamma Document No/ Identification : 685/09-10** While in Transit. Finders Please **Contact: 9008965037**

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I, CHAYA GIRISH ROOPA, Residing at Bangalore- 560079 have changed my name as CHARVI, vide affidavit dated 9/12/2025 before Notary K.S. Bammappanavar, Bangalore

I, SANATHANA SOMAYAJI.K S/o. Gopala Krishna Somayaji, aged 46 years, R/No. 31, Shiva-Nishantham, White Meadows, Suncity Road, Near KHB Bande Mutt, K.S.T, Bangalore-560060 changed my name from SANATHANA SOMAYAJI.K to SANATHANA KARTHATTU SOMAYAJI vide affidavit dated: 09.12.2025 before Notary Advocate Ravi Bangalore.

I, ALOAK JAWALI S/o Bashetteappa Jawali Residing at No 140, 1st Main 8th Cross, Near Muneshwara Temple, Peenya Small Industries, Byraveshwara Nagar, Laggere, Bangaluru-58 have changed my name from ALOAK to ALOAK JAWALI vide affidavit dated. 04-12-2025 before Notary S Samuel Solomon Bangalore.

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Beer sales get 'cold' response in K'taka

MANJUNATH HEGDE BOMNALLI
BELAGAVI, DHNS

Beer sales in Karnataka have seen a 19.55% drop, Excise Minister R B Timmapur said, while attributing the fall to cold weather conditions across the state.

At the end of September 2025 in the current fiscal, a total of 195.27 lakh boxes of beer were sold. This is 47.46 lakh boxes lesser compared with the corresponding period last year.

"Increase in rainfall and cold weather conditions in the state are primary reasons for the drop in beer sales," Timmapur said in a written reply to the Legislative Council.

The Karnataka government has fixed an excise revenue target of 40,000 crore in 2025-26.

On Monday, the Council witnessed a heated debate when Opposition BJP members asked the government to set aside 20% of the excise revenue for the treatment of liver cirrhosis and jaundice caused by liquor consumption.

The government shot down the proposal. "Excise revenue is deposited in the consolidated fund and gets used for budget programmes. Using one department's revenue from the consolidated fund for a specific purpose is not the practice," Timmapur said.

"The state government is taking several measures for the overall health and treatment of people. Under schemes like the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana and the National Health Mission, health check-ups and treatment are being provided to the public in the state. Necessary funds are being provided in the budget to the departments of health and medical education," the minister stated.

DKS calls for liberal excise laws, says liquor being 'door-delivered'

'Legalise unauthorised bars in the coastal region'

BELAGAVI, DHNS

Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar on Tuesday claimed that liquor was being delivered to homes 'unofficially' through quick commerce platforms, even as he advocated for liberal excise laws.

Shivakumar said this in the Legislative Assembly during a debate in which some lawmakers complained about easy and illegal availability of liquor across the state.

The issue was raised by JD(S) floor leader C B Suresh Babu, who said that the liquor was being sold illegally at petty shops in Chikkanayakanahalli, his constituency.

At this point, BJP's S Suresh Kumar caustically asked the government to permit the supply of liquor on Swiggy and Zomato. "It'll increase your income," he added.

Shivakumar, the Bengaluru Urban Development minister, said platforms such as Amazon and Swiggy had made delivery of medicines and vegetables easy.

"What's the guarantee that liquor is not being delivered home by them? It's available there, but not officially. This is going on in the system. I've heard about this in several places," the deputy chief minister said.

Shivakumar said that he recently asked Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to legalise unauthorised bars in the coastal region of the state. "In the coastal belt, we're not permitting bars in some places. Still, beer is being sold there...on the beaches. Instead, we should officially allow it by giving licences. This is my personal opinion," he said.

Further, Shivakumar called for 'regularisation' of any violations in the permissible possession of liquor. "There's a restriction that one can't keep more than seven bottles at home. We keep getting bottles from visitors. This should be regularised. Otherwise, there'll be raids and cases booked. Whether we know it or not, this is happening illegally," he said.

Babu claimed that the excise department had fixed liquor sales targets. Timmapur irked lawmakers when he said there were no targets.

BJP's V Sunil Kumar accused Timmapur of misleading the House. "The target is to collect Rs 40,000 crore in excise revenue," he said. To this, the minister said: "That's not a target, but an estimation. Will you drink if I ask you to, Speaker?"

Timmapur said petty shops in Gujarat, where there is prohibition, sell liquor. "This is happening everywhere. We'll do raids and take stricter action," he said.

Drugs delivered via quick commerce: Suresh Kumar

Former BJP minister S Suresh Kumar told the Assembly he had information that gig workers were delivering drugs (narcotics) via quick commerce platforms.

"If my information is right, gig workers...this new system...even drugs are being supplied. The government shouldn't demonstrate helplessness. Society and youngsters are getting spoilt," he said.

Home Minister G Parameshwara asked Kumar to share information. "Kumar has made a very big statement. Give us information and we'll take action," he said.

Opposition leader Chalavadi Narayanaswamy speaks in the Legislative Council wearing a yellow turban on Tuesday.

Chaos in Council over BJP MLCs wearing yellow turbans

BELAGAVI, DHNS: The Legislative Council on Tuesday witnessed chaotic scenes after Congress MLCs objected to opposition BJP members wearing yellow-coloured turbans.

The BJP MLCs, who had taken part in a farmers' protest wearing yellow turbans and green shawls, entered the Council in the same attire, irking Congress members.

Objecting to this, Congress MLC Ramesh Babu said the yellow turban symbolised the Maharashtra Ekikaran Samiti and alleged that the BJP was anti-Kannadiga and anti–North Karnataka. Congress legislators also raised slogans against the BJP. Meanwhile, the BJP members, who were also wearing green shawls, said they had taken part in a farmers' protest and raised slogans accusing the Congress of being anti-farmer.

As members from both the ruling and Opposition benches engaged in heated arguments, Deputy Chairman of the House M K Pranesh adjourned the proceedings.

Why haven't you created permanent disaster fund, Ashoka asks CM

BELAGAVI, DHNS: Leader of Opposition (LoP) in the Assembly R Ashoka on Tuesday charged Chief Minister Siddaramaiah with failing to keep his word and accused him of 'betraying' farmers.

Initiating a debate on problems plaguing North Karnataka in the Assembly, Ashoka cited a tweet by Siddaramaiah on May 8, 2020 – the CM was the LoP then – wherein he had called for the creation of a revolving fund of Rs 5,000 crore so the government could disburse money to farmers in times when they were fetching rates lower than the fixed price for their crops.

"It's not just a tweet. The Congress manifesto for the 2023 elections also contains a promise to create a permanent disaster management fund with an initial corpus of Rs 5,000 crore. Has it been created? Losses in North Karnataka are higher than in the Old Mysore region. Why have you not given Rs 5,000 crore?" asked Ashoka.

Acknowledging that it was the Centre that finalised the price of sugarcane, Ashoka was, however, quick to point out that the Supreme Court had mandated that the state governments must pay the additional amount.

Expressing dismay over the suicide of 2,422 farmers in the past two-and-a-half years, Ashoka added, "Of these, 32 were sugarcane farmers. Farmer suicides in Karnataka account for 22.5% of the country's aggregate, while the number is 5.9% in Tamil Nadu, and 8% in Andhra Pradesh. The government has still not come out of the guarantee delusion. With the guarantee schemes drying up the treasury, the government deferred relief for drought. (Revenue Minister) Krishna Byre Gowda is very intelligent. They postponed declaring a drought by two months."

Krishna Byre Gowda said that the Congress had provided Rs 4,300 crore in compensation to 38 lakh farmers who suffered losses owing to the drought in 2023. "This was the largest sum paid in compensation in the state's history," he added.

Reminding the BJP that the Congress government had filed a case against the Centre in the SC, Krishna Byre Gowda added, "They should have told the Supreme Court that we did not declare the drought on time. We informed the apex court that it was the first time a state government had knocked on its doors since funds had not been given. We fought, secured funds, and distributed it to the farmers."

The minister's remarks triggered a heated exchange between members of the Congress and the BJP, prompting a brief adjournment.

When the session resumed, Siddaramaiah said, "When the LoP is speaking, he must not be interrupted. (Others) must speak only once he has yielded. The opposition must also refrain from relaying false information and base their criticism on facts."

Members of BJP take out a protest march to lay siege to Suvarna Vidhana Soudha on Tuesday.

'Ministers following CM in aerial survey of crop losses, fearing backlash'

Vijayendra says state number 2 in country in farmer suicides

BELAGAVI, DHNS

BJP state president B Y Vijayendra said on Tuesday that ministers in the state Cabinet wanted to conduct aerial survey via helicopters of crop losses suffered by farmers due to excess rains and floods in the state, following in the chief minister's footsteps, fearing backlash from farmers.

The ministers will be under fire for not responding to their grievances, he said.

The BJP has always supported farmers and when in power, former chief minister B S Yediyurappa had compensated for crop losses without pointing fingers at the Centre, he said. This, even before the full Cabinet had come into being.

A compensation of Rs 5 lakh each was given to houses that had collapsed.

He was addressing a farmers' rally organised by the BJP to protest against the Congress government for its anti-farmer policies here.

Vijayendra said BJP had to resort to protest during the session here as the Congress government had failed to respond to farmers whose crops were damaged due to excess rains and were in distress. "Teams from BJP toured different districts to see the ground reality. None of the ministers visited districts where farmers lost their crops," he said.

Siddaramaiah conducted aerial survey of places where crops were damaged after BJP leaders did a reality check, but did not compensate farmers.

Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly R Ashoka said after Congress came to power, more than 2,400 farmers had died by suicide and the state stood at number 2 position in farmers' suicides in the country. There has been no response from the government to farmers' demands for establishment of purchase centres under minimum support price.

Leader of the Opposition in the Council Chalavadi Narayanaswamy said people elected Congress government for the five guarantees announced, but development works had taken a hit.

BJP: Conduct another survey to assess crop loss in flood-hit areas

BELAGAVI, DHNS

The BJP on Monday urged the Congress government to conduct a fresh survey to accurately estimate the extent of crop loss in flood-hit districts. Legislators of the saffron party said that farmers in some areas had complained about their losses being underestimated.

Leader of Opposition in the Legislative Council Chalavadi Narayanaswamy said that, while the state government's figures claimed that crops across 14.58 lakh hectares had been damaged, the BJP's state-wide survey had found that the damage was spread across 38.71 lakh hectares. Chalavadi said that the BJP's figures were based on information received from the farmers. "Furthermore, instead of the Rs 2.4 lakh being paid in compensation to those whose houses have collapsed, Rs 5 lakh must be paid in accordance with the norms of National Disaster Response Force and State Disaster Response Force," he said.

However, Leader of the House in the Council and Minor Irrigation Minister N S Boseraju disputed Chalavadi's figures, alleging that his claims were 'politically motivated'. Boseraju informed the Council that there was an established process for carrying out the survey.

Chalavadi also called out the government on the delay in disbursing compensation to farmers who had lost their crops, besides questioning the state's failure in opening procurement centres for crops, which he said had plunged farmers of North Karnataka in distress.

Centre or state: Who's to blame

BJP and Congress MLCs, meanwhile, sparred over the payment of Fair and Remunerative Price for sugarcane farmers. While BJP leaders such as C T Ravi contended that the Congress had betrayed farmers, Congress leaders, including ministers Chaluvarayaswamy, Santosh Lad and Shivaraj Tangadagi, blamed the BJP-led Centre for not extending assistance to the state.

Ravi lamented the fact that the state stood second in number of farmer suicides, besides decrying the delay in completion of irrigation projects. He urged the government to re-introduce the addition of Rs 4,000 for each beneficiary under the PM Kisan Samman Yojana, besides calling for raising the quantum of interest-free loans to farmers up to Rs 10 lakh.

Crest gates at TB Dam

Responding to BJP MLCs who questioned the delay in the installation of new crest gates at the Tungabhadra Dam, Boseraju said that the Tungabhadra Board was administered by the Centre. "The state government is only contributing a portion of the expenses. Of the total cost of Rs 32 crore, the state has disbursed Rs 10 crore...It will take 15 months for work to finish," he said.

I'm the real leader of oppn, says Yatnal

BELAGAVI, DHNS: Expelled BJP MLA Basanagouda Patil Yatnal on Tuesday declared himself as "the real Leader of the Opposition" in the Legislative Assembly.

Basanagouda Patil Yatnal

Yatnal said this while complaining to Speaker U T Khader that he had been assigned a seat in the back benches.

"Senior MLAs are being made to sit at the back. I'm the real Leader of the Opposition. I don't do adjustment politics. I haven't visited the chief minister's office. I haven't made requests to any ministers. Give me a seat next to the deputy speaker," Yatnal said. Khader said Yatnal was given the front bench when he was with the BJP.

"If you keep going in and out (of BJP), what can we do?" he asked.

'A' khata for properties in unapproved layouts

BELAGAVI, DHNS: Urban Development and Town Planning Minister B S Suresh said that the government is considering converting B Khata properties into A Khata properties (Akrama- Sakrama) across the state (except Bengaluru).

Replying to a question raised by Congress MLC Ramoji Gowda, the minister said that the government is considering a proposal to issue A Khata to even such properties in the layouts that have not received the approvals of the competent authorities. The matter will soon be placed before the cabinet, he said.

"Currently, we are providing B Khata to the layouts that have not received approvals from competitive authorities, but plan and project approvals were done. As these properties come under the tax and they are paying tax, we are considering extending A Khata to such properties," Suresh informed the House.

He said that the government has considered properties measuring 1200 sqft for issuance of OC-CC certificates on humanitarian grounds.

BJP decides to 'target' Priyank, KBG in session

BELAGAVI, DHNS: The BJP in its Legislature Party meeting on Tuesday decided mainly to "target" two ministers: IT-BT and Rural Development Minister Priyank Kharge and Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda (KBG) - by raising the issues pertaining to their respective portfolios.

The sources from the meeting said that Priyank and Krishna Byre Gowda had failed to manage their departments effectively.

The losses to the government due to failures in Rural Development and IT-BT, the hardships suffered by the people because of the Revenue Department's failure to address farmers' issues and corruption in Revenue development will be raised in the House.

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Khandre writes to CM, seeks CID probe into forest land scam

BENGALURU, DHNS: Forest Eshwar Khandre has written to CM Siddaramaiah requesting a CID probe into the land scam in which an individual has been accused of forging documents to get an order from the high court in favour of his claim for forest land.

The minister is now seeking action against the additional advocate general for not informing the government or department about the court order.

On Nov 27, *DH* reported about the department staring at a loss of the reserved forest in B M Kaval worth about Rs 30,000 crore after one M B Nemane Gowda, also known as M B Manmatha, got a favourable order from court.

The report highlighted multiple cases filed by Gowda. The minister had then ordered a detailed inquiry into Gowda's claims, which revealed he had claimed over 21,000 acres in 18 cases.

In a letter to the CM, Khandre said the department was not provided a copy of the high court order till a day prior to the 90-day limit to file an appeal.

"Additional Advocate General Yoganna did not inform the government about the order. Instead, he said it was not a fit case for appeal, which would have benefited the petitioner (Gowda). This conduct raises suspicion," he said.

"He has previously tried to forge documents to grab government land. The then Chikkamagaluru assistant commissioner had ordered officials to register a criminal case against him in Sept 2024," he said.

The minister said after the matter came to his notice, a complaint was filed before the Chikkamagaluru police on Nov 28.

"The Mudigere circle inspector has not registered an FIR till now, raising further suspicion," he said.

Amid 'ceasefire' violations, DKS says all's well with CM

'Didn't get what Yathindra said; will speak to him'

BELAGAVI, DHNS

Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar on Tuesday maintained that he has no differences with Chief Minister Siddaramaiah.

Shivakumar was reacting to the statement of Congress MLC Yathindra, Siddaramaiah's son, who said his father would complete a full five-year term.

"Everything is fine. There is no difference between me and the chief minister. It was never there, it is not there today and won't be in the future," Shivakumar said.

"I didn't understand what he (Yathindra) said. I will speak to him," he said.

Reacting to Yathindra's remarks, Siddaramaiah on Monday reiterated that he would abide by whatever decision the party high command took.

On Tuesday, Yathindra said, "Let anyone say whatever they want. I have said what I had to. I don't want to react further."

Yathindra's statement was widely seen as a 'ceasefire violation' after Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar held breakfast meetings and decided to go by whatever the Congress high command decides.

"Instead of keeping their mouths shut, why are people speaking? When they (Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar) are united, why issue statements?" Sagar MLA Belur Gopalakrishna said.

Online post

Congress MLC Channaraj Hattiholi contributed to the ceasefire violation in Congress with a social media post welcoming "Chief Minister D K Shivakumar" to Belagavi on Tuesday.

Hattiholi's sister, Women and Child Development Minister Laxmi Hebbalkar, regretted the error. The glaring mistake did not go unnoticed amid the leadership tussle.

"This was a lapse. We don't post things ourselves. There are handlers. My brother told me about the error and it was rectified immediately," Hebbalkar said.

Meanwhile, Urban Development Minister B S Suresh (Byrathi) said Siddaramaiah will choose his political successor.

This was a reaction to senior Congress leader B K Hariprasad's suggestion that Public Works Minister Satish Jarkiholi is eligible to become the chief minister's heir.

"It is Siddaramaiah who should name his successor to the Ahinda leadership. The king is alive. So, this question (on succession) doesn't arise," Suresh said.

'Citizens, MLAs betting on next CM'

Hitting out at the ruling Congress over the leadership tussle, BJP MLA V Sunil Kumar told the Legislative Assembly that bets are being placed on Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and his deputy D K Shivakumar.

"Citizens and MLAs are placing bets on who will be the chief minister next month," Kumar said in a segue during a discussion on online betting games.

60% of GIM proposals realised: Minister

BELAGAVI DHNS: Industries Minister M B Patil on Monday informed the Legislative Council that 60% of the investments approved in the recent Global Investors Meet (GIM) have been realised and the government's target is to reach 80%.

Replying to the question by BJP MLC Keshav Prasad, the minister said that there had been cut-throat competition from neighbouring states in attracting investors. "For example, we offered 40% incentives to Lenskart, but a neighbouring state offered 100% incentive. We need to shift from ease of doing business to speed of doing business," he said.

Responding to the delay by some departments in issuing clearances, the minister informed the Council that the government is adopting best practices from other states.

◆ WEATHER ◆

Overview: Rainfall occurred at few places over South Interior Karnataka. Dry weather prevailed over Coastal and North Interior Karnataka
Forecast Dec 10: Rainfall to occur at few places over the state.

INTERIOR NORTH			
Stations	Max	Min	Rain
Belagavi	29.6	12.6	00
Bidar	27	10	00
Vijayapura	28	10.5	00
Dharwad	28.4	13.4	00
Haveri	30.6	13.4	00
Kalaburagi	31.6	13.8	00
Raichur	29	12	00
COASTAL			
Honnavar	34.3	20.9	00
Karwar	35.8	20.4	00
Shirali	NA	NA	NA
Mangaluru	32.9	21	00

INTERIOR SOUTH			
Stations	Max	Min	Rain
Agumbe	NA	14.8	00
Bengaluru	29.2	16.1	00
Ballari	NA	NA	NA
Chamarajanagar	NA	NA	NA
Chikkamagaluru	NA	NA	NA
Chitradurga	29	15	00
Davangere	28	13	00
Hassan	NA	10.6	00
Mysuru	30	15.4	00
Madikeri	NA	NA	NA
Kolar	26.8	12.4	00
OTHER STATIONS			
New Delhi	26.3	9.2	00
Kolkata	26	15.2	00
Mumbai	33.9	16.5	00
Chennai	29	23.4	00
Pune	30.1	8.9	00
Hyderabad	30.5	13	00
Th'puram	32.4	22.2	00

ಡಾ. ಮನಮೋಹನ್ ಸಿಂಗ್ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ
DR. MANMOHAN SINGH BENGALURU CITY UNIVERSITY
Office of the Registrar, Central College Campus, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru - 560001. E-mail: registrar@bcu.ac.in

Tender No: BCU/2024-25/IND0023 Date: 05-12-2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through KPP Portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in Only)

1) Name of the Work: **Supply of Stationery Materials to Administrative Departments of Bengaluru City University, Central College Campus, Bengaluru.** 2) EMD: **Rs. 60,000/-.** 3) Last Date for Queries: **10-12-2025 upto 16.30 Hours.** 4) Pre Bid Meeting Date and Place: **11-12-2025 at 11.30 Hours. Registrar's Office, Central College Campus, Dr. Manmohan Singh Bengaluru City University, Bengaluru.** 5) Last Date for Submission of Tender: **22-12-2025 upto 16.30 Hours.** 6) Last Date for Submission of Sample: **22-12-2025 upto 16.35 Hours.** 7) Date of Opening of the Technical Bid: **23-12-2025 at 16.40 Hours.**
Note: Payment of Tender processing fee and EMD amount as per E-Procurement Portal.
Sd/- REGISTRAR
DIPR/CP/4313/Adverto/2025-26

ನಗರಸಭಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಶಿರಸಿ (ಉ.ಕ.)
ದೂರವಾಣಿ: 08384-226338 ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್: www.sirsicity.mrc.gov.in
ಇ-ಮೇಲ್: comm_srs@yahoo.com
ನಂ. ನಸಶಿ/ನೈವಿ/ಟೆಂಡರ/15ನೇಹ.ಉ/ವಿವ-/2025-26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 05.12.2025

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ 1999 ಹಾಗೂ ನಿಯಮಾವಳಿ-2000 ರಂತೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಂದಾಯಿತ ಅರ್ಹ ನೋಂದಾಯಿತ ಏಜೆನ್ಸಿದಾರರು/ಅಧೀಕೃತ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು/ ಅಧೀಕೃತ ಪೂರೈಕೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯುಮೆಂಟ್ KG-2ರ ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗೊಳಪಟ್ಟಂತೆ, KPP Portal ನಲ್ಲಿ ರಜಿಸ್ಟ್ರೇಷನ್ ಮಾಡಿಸಿದ ನೋಂದಾಯಿತ ಅರ್ಹ ನೋಂದಾಯಿತ ಏಜೆನ್ಸಿದಾರರು/ ಅಧೀಕೃತ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು/ಅಧೀಕೃತ ಪೂರೈಕೆದಾರರಿಂದ (1) DMA/2025-26/IND5726 (ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. 66.00 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು) ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಟೆಂಡರಗಳನ್ನು KPP Portal ಮೂಲಕ ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, KPP Portal ನಿಯಮಗಳ ಮತ್ತು ಟೆಂಡರು ಕರಾರುಗಳ ಅನ್ವಯ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಫಾರ್ಮಗಳನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯುವುದು, ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡುವುದು ಮತ್ತು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವುದು.
(1) KPP Portal ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 19.12.2025 (ಸಂಜೆ 16.00 ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ) (2) KPP Portal ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 20.12.2025 (ಸಂಜೆ 16.30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ) (3) KPP Portal ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 22.12.2025 (ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ) (ರಜಾ ಇದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಮುಂದಿನ ಕೆಲಸದ ದಿನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು)
ಟೆಂಡರನಲ್ಲಿಯ ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಹಾಗೂ ಷರತ್ತುಗಳ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು KPP Portal ಪ್ಲಾಟ್ ಫಾರಂನಲ್ಲಿ www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in ರಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು ಹಾಗೂ ಕಚೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯತಕ್ಕದ್ದು.
ಸಹಿ/- ಪೌರಾಯುಕ್ತರು, ನಗರಸಭೆ, ಶಿರಸಿ.
DIPR/ADK/KSMCA/814/25-26 dt.08.12.2025

BENGALURU NORTH CITY CORPORATION
Office of the Executive Engineer, Special Division, Amruthahalli Main Road, Byatarayanapura, Bengaluru - 560092.

No: BNCC/EE/SD/TEND/05/2025-26 Date: 09-12-2025

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT) - (SHORT TERM)
(Two Cover System) (Through GOK KPP Portal only)

The Executive Engineer, Special Division, BNCC, Bengaluru invites Tender from eligible registered Agencies in any State Government Organization for the Service of detailed below.

Sl. No.	Name of the Project
1	Providing Outsourcing Skilled Employees to Public Relation Office Section of Bengaluru North City Corporation for One Year. **(Call-2) - Amount Put to Tender (Rs. in Lakhs): 23.80, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 50,000/-**

Calendar of Events: 1) Tender documents can be downloaded from the GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** 2) Last Date and Time for Queries (through Online only): **12-12-2025 upto 4.00 PM.** 3) Date & Time of Pre Bid Meeting: **12-12-2025 at 3.00 PM.** 4) Last Date and Time for Receipt of Tenders: **19-12-2025 upto 4.00 PM.** 5) Date of Opening of Technical Bid is **20-12-2025 at 4.30 PM (if possible or next working day).** 6) Date of Opening of Financial Bid: **22-12-2025 at 4.00 PM (if Possible).** Further details can be had from the above office.
Sd/- Executive Engineer, Special Division, BNCC.

Fuming govt curtails IndiGo's...

IndiGo, From Page 1

After his meeting with IndiGo management to review service stabilisation measures, Naidu said many passengers faced severe inconvenience due to Indigo's "internal mismanagement of crew rosters, flight schedules and inadequate communication" last week.

He said Elbers informed him that 100% of the refunds for flights affected till December 6 have been completed while a "strict instruction" was given to expedite the completion of the remaining refunds and baggage handover.

"The ministry considers it necessary to curtail the overall Indigo routes, which will help in stabilising the airline's operations and lead to reduced cancellations. A curtailment of 10% has been ordered. While abiding with it, Indigo will continue to cover all its destinations as before," he said.

In its fresh order, the DGCA said IndiGo has been directed to submit a revised schedule to the DGCA by Wednesday 5 pm.

The regulator said it has examined the winter schedule 2025 approved for IndiGo against the backdrop of wide disruption due to massive cancellations of flights. It said 15,014 departures per week were approved for the airline, amounting to 64,346 flights for November.

However, it said, the operational data submitted by IndiGo showed that only 59,438 flights were actually operated during November with 951 flight cancellations. Compared with its summer schedule, IndiGo was allowed an enhancement of the schedule by 6%, with 403 aircraft as against 351.

After employees, soon students to get menstrual leave

Leave, From Page 1

According to the Bill, menstruating persons can work from home if they do not want to avail of the leave facility. The Bill is expected to be tabled during the ongoing Winter Session of the Legislature in Belagavi.

The Bill proposes to institute the Karnataka Women Wellbeing Authority to carry out purposes of the Bill.

The chairperson of the Karnataka Commission for Women will be the ex-officio chairperson of the authority, while four government representatives (ex-officio members) and two women activists (nominated) will also be a part of it.

The authority should meet once in three months and redress grievances of menstruating persons.

Labour officers in each district shall hold spot-inspections and periodically submit their inquiry report to the authority.

The Bill mandates the authority to hold inquiries following the principles of "natural justice", giving full and equal opportunities to both complainant and respondent. It says the orders passed by the Authority shall be "final".

Penal provisions

Section 9 of the draft Bill introduces penal provisions against employers who "ill-treat" or "discriminate" or "treat a menstruating person as an untouchable" with a penalty that may extend up to Rs 5,000.

After approving the menstrual leave policy on October 9, the government issued two orders — a November 12 order granted menstrual leave to women working in the private sector, while the December 2 order extended the benefits to women working in the government sector too.

Why Bill when GOs passed?

The government's decision comes at a time when the Karnataka High Court stayed the government's November 12 order granting one-day menstrual leave per month to women aged 18-52 working in private establishments.

The decision to introduce the Bill is being interpreted as a move to provide additional legal scrutiny to the policy.

Guard against anarchy: SC to...

SIR, From Page 1

Senior advocate V Giri, appearing for petitioner Sanatani Sangsad and others, pointed out that the petitioners have alleged violence and threats against BLOs and other officials engaged in SIR work and sought directions to the EC to protect them.

The top court sought responses from the EC, the Centre and the West Bengal government on the plea of Sanatani Sangsad for directions to deploy the state police officers under the EC's deputation till the final publication of electoral rolls in the state after SIR.

The plea also sought the deployment of central armed forces in the state till the completion of SIR.

Giri submitted that there was a spate of violence in West Bengal against booth-level officers (BLOs) carrying out SIR duties, and hence, there was a need for the deployment of central forces since the state was opposed to it.

Justice Bagchi told Giri that apart from one FIR, there was no other instance mentioned in the petition. "Can the court, based on a single FIR, say this situation is unique and special to West Bengal alone and that there is no obstruction in any other state? We are sympathetic to your cause," he said.

At the outset, Dwivedi submitted that a strong letter has been written by the EC to the West Bengal government, as there were instances of BLOs being threatened, their work being obstructed and the state election office being gheraoed.

Justice Bagchi said the argument has been made by some petitioners that the state election commission office was gheraoed as the BLOs were getting exhausted due to being over-burdened and committing suicides.

Dwivedi said there are a lot of political narratives that have been floating around since the SIR exercise began.

Apathy in admin, graft in long list of grouses at CLP meeting

'Look beyond guarantees, focus on development too'

BELAGAVI, DHNS:

A few Congress lawmakers are said to have hit out at their own party's administration over official apathy, corruption and lack of funds at the legislature party meeting on Tuesday.

Some MLAs and MLCs spoke out during the Congress legislature party (CLP) meeting chaired by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, sources said.

Apparently, Nanjegowda said the government would have to go beyond 'guarantee' schemes and focus on development. He said the CM's fund-release assurance hadn't materialised and that officials were unresponsive.

Nadagouda lashed out at officials for sitting on files or sending them back with queries. "Even legislators' files are kept pending," he reportedly said.

Sources said Das flagged "rampant corruption" and called for officials to be reined in.

Siddaramaiah is said to have assured lawmakers that he would speak with the finance department and release Rs 50 crore per constituency in a phased manner.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah greets MLAs and MLCs at the meeting of the Congress legislature party meeting in Belagavi on Tuesday. He is flanked by his Cabinet colleagues and other party leaders.. DH PHOTO/PUSHKAR V

The CM asked his party colleagues to defend the Congress against the Opposition BJP on North Karnataka issues in the session.

"They'll come after us. You (MLAs) must come prepared. Ministers must respond aggressively. We must highlight the Centre's failures," Siddaramaiah said, as per sources.

"The media is against us. That's why I've stopped reacting to them," the CM reportedly said.

It is also learnt that lawmakers were given a handout on Congress' contribution to North Karnataka and "false allegations" by BJP.

Expelled BJP MLAs S T Somashekhar and Shivaram Hebbar also attended the meeting.

High court to hear pleas against GO over menstrual leaves today

BENGALURU, DHNS

The high court has posted to Wednesday petitions challenging the government notification, mandating industrial establishments registered under various laws to provide one day paid menstrual leave per month to all permanent, contract and outsourced women employees.

On Tuesday, Justice Jyoti M initially stayed the operation of the order. But the interim order was recalled just before lunch break at the request of advocate general Shashikiran Shetty.

The petitions are filed by Bangalore Hotels Association and the management of Avirata AFL Connectivity Systems Limited, challenging the Nov 20 notification.

It had directed employers to provide 12 paid leaves per year to all women staff aged 18-52 years in establishments under Factories Act, 1948, Karnataka Shops and Commercial Establishments Act, 1961, Plantation Workers Act, 1951, Beedi Cigar Workers (Condition of Employment) Act, 1966 and Motor Vehicle Workers Act, 1961.

The women do not have to submit any medical certificate while availing of the menstrual leave, the order said.

The advocate for the petitioners said the notification was not supported by any legislative enactment and was unconstitutional and violative of Art 14 of the Constitution. The Bangalore Hotels Association claimed that it had 1,540 establishments/owners as active members.

The plea said clause 9 of the model standing orders appended to the Karnataka Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Rules, mandates the employers to provide leave with pay as provided under the Factories Act, 1948, and other holidays in accordance with law, contract, custom and usage.

The petitioners said under various laws, there was a comprehensive statutory framework through mandating employers to provide sufficient leave to employees, adding none of the statutes has got any provision/s mandating menstrual leave.

The advocates representing the petitioners said the government did not consult managements before issuing order. The petitioners said, instead of leaving it to employers to decide appropriately on granting menstrual leave as part of HR policies, authorities had unnecessarily interfered in employers' affairs.

They said no preliminary notification, seeking objections from stakeholders, was called for and thus, the notification was in violation of principles of natural justice.

It was stated that granting menstrual leave was likely to cause additional financial burden depending upon the number of female employees and as such, it would cause serious civil consequences as well.

Gowda wants Vande Mataram recorded in 150 ways

NEW DELHI, DHNS

Former prime minister H D Deve Gowda on Tuesday said Vande Mataram united Indians in the past and continued to do so even today.

He was speaking during the discussion on the 150th anniversary of Vande Mataram in Rajya Sabha.

"Vande Mataram is a song that has inspired many generations of Indians. Even to this day, 150 years after it was first published, it moves us greatly, " he said.

The JD(S) supremo suggested that to celebrate 150 years of the song, it should be recorded in 150 different ways as a tribute to freedom fighters.

"I would suggest that in the 150th year of the song, we should record 150 ways of singing Vande Mataram, in 150 different music traditions of this very rich and diverse nation. That will be a great tribute to Bankim Chandra Chatterjee, Rabindranath Tagore and our freedom fighters," the former prime minister said.

"I am similarly moved when I hear the Kannada state song (nada geete) Jaya Bharata Jananiya Tanujate. It was a song of Kuvempu that was adopted as the state song in Karnataka. Again, it is the rich soul of this song that has made it very special in the hearts of Kannadigas," Gowda said.

"Bengali nationalism came to greatly influence Indian nationalism and Vande Mataram was a powerful component of that nationalism which inspired the rest of India. Each state of India now has a state song which draws its spirit from Vande Mataram," he said.

"Bharat Mata and Bhuvaneshwari became mother and daughter or sisters through this great song. That spirit united India and continues to unite India," he said.

Make it compulsory in schools: Sudha Murty

Nominated Rajya Sabha MP Sudha Murty urged the government to make it compulsory to sing the national song 'Vande Mataram' in primary and high schools.

"I am standing here not as an MP, philanthropist or author. I am standing here as a daughter of Mother India or Bharat Mata," she said.

Describing India as a quilt where each state is a coloured piece of cloth, she said the thread and needle binding them together is Vande Mataram.

"It is not the map or flag, but the concept of land as motherland. It is not just a piece of land, it is the motherland," she said.

Making a case for teaching the song in schools, she said: "We teach our children the national anthem 'Jana Gana Mana'. It takes three more minutes to teach Vande Mataram. We are not teaching that. In the course of time, our children will lose the entire text of Vande Mataram."

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
KARNATAKA GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT
Revenue Department, M. S. Building, Bengaluru

NO: E-RD 189 GRC 2025 **Date:13.10.2025**

NOTIFICATION

Whereas, upon considering the report of the Police Inspector, White Field Police Station, Bengaluru City and after due investigation of the complaints of depositors it has come to the notice of the Government, that the Dream Adventures Services, Bengaluru is involved in fraudulent transactions by clandestinely and illegally collecting deposits or money from the general public and thereafter have failed to return the same either after maturity or on demand made by the depositors or complainants with promised interest and other assured benefits and thereby have failed to render the services promised to them.

And whereas, it has further come to the notice of the Government that Dream Adventures Services, Bengaluru and people associating with them have been acquiring lands, movable and immovable properties, cash and others from and out of the deposits or money so collected, from the depositors or complainants and thereby deviating from the intended purposes of accepting the deposits or money.

And whereas, the Government has reason to believe that the actions of Dream Adventures Services, Bengaluru and people associating with them are acting in and detrimental to the interest of the depositors or complainants whose intention was to defraud the innocent depositors, and it has become necessary to protect the interest of the depositors of the Dream Adventures Services, Bengaluru.

And whereas, now the Government after considering the report of the Police Inspector, White Field Police Station, Bengaluru City and Investigation officer for Dream Adventures Services, Bengaluru Fraudulent case and satisfying itself about the urgent need to protect the interest of the depositors and in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (2) of Section (3) of the Karnataka Protection of interest of Depositors in Financial Establishment Act, 2004 (Karnataka Act 30 of 2005) hereby makes the following order, namely:

"ORDER"

Now therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (2) of Section (3) of the Karnataka Protection of interest of Depositors in Financial Establishment Act, 2004 (Karnataka Act 30 of 2005), the Government under the circumstances stated above having satisfied that in order to protect the interest of depositors it is necessary to attach the movable and immovable properties believed to belong to Dream Adventures Services, Bengaluru.

Therefore, the Government hereby attaches the movable properties as specified in the Annexure to this order believed to have been acquired by the Dream Adventures Services, Bengaluru either in its own name or in the name of any other person from and out of the deposits collected by the Dream Adventures Services Bengaluru, and where it transpires that such money or such other properties of the said financial establishment, or the personal assets of the promoters, partners, directors, managers or members or any other person of the said financial establishment is not sufficient for the repayment of the deposits or interest or such other assured benefits to the depositors.

Note: All the aforesaid movable properties from the date of publication of this order in the Official Gazette, shall forth with vest with the Competent Authority, who has been appointed by the Government, pending further orders from the Special Court.

By Order and in the name of the Governor of Karnataka
Sd/-
(Anwar Basha)
Deputy Secretary to Government,
Revenue Department
(Services-1, SSLR & Special Cell)

Annexure

Sl.No.	Vehicle Registration Number	Vehicle Details	Present Market Value	Remarks
1	KA19 MM 9383	Mahindra Thar LX D MT Chassis Number: MA1UJ4YK2N2J11697 Engine Number: YKN4J55036	***	Market Value will be ascertained by concerned RTO upon the attachment order being confirmed and made absolute by the special court.
2	KA19 HD 1984	Royal Enfield (Classic 350 ABS) Chassis Number: ME3U355C2KM766821 Engine Number: U3S52KM701770	***	Market Value will be ascertained by concerned RTO upon the attachment order being confirmed and made absolute by the special court.

Sd/- (Anwar Basha)
Deputy Secretary to Government,
Revenue Department
(Services-1, SSLR & Special Cell)

DIPR/CP/JA/4311/2025-26

MSIL
Mysore Sales International Limited
Consumer & Industrial Products Division,
MSILHouse, # 36, Cunningham Road, Bengaluru-560 052.

No.MSIL/CIPD/(RFP)/293/2025-26 Date: 11.12.2025

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

MSIL invites Request for Proposal (RFP) for Empanelment as **"Business promoters" for promoting and selling company's furniture & allied products** to Government Departments/ Institutions across the State of Karnataka. Last date for receipt of (RFP): **29.12.2025 at 3.30 p.m.** For further details contact e-Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- General Manager (Marketing/CIPD)

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT DIVISION KOPPAL.
Phone No: 08539 – 222318 email : eepwdkpl2@gmail.com

IFT No. PWD:DK:TR:KW-4:2025-26:3090 Date: 08-12-2025.

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)

The Executive Engineer, Public works Department Division Koppal invites tenders from the eligible tenderers as per standard bid documents KW-3&4 on http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in Portal. Head of Account : 4059-80-051-0-60-132 CMIDP / 2025-26. Two cover Tender procedure as per Rule 28 of the KTPP Act shall be followed. For more information the contractor can contact the under signed during office hours on **Phone No. 08539 – 222318** and all informations regarding tenders can be had from website **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** 5 Works **(Work Indent No: 29706, 29032, 29031, 29686 & 29700)** Last Date & Time for receipt of tenders **17-12-2025 Time 16.00,** Date and Time for opening of Technical Bid **19-12-2025 Time 16.30.** Date and Time for opening of Financial Bid **23-12-2025 Time 11.00** (Minimum & Estimate Maximum Amount **Rs. 300.00 Lakhs & Rs.750.00 Lakhs** respectively. The tender documents can be downloaded from the above website address, EMD, Date & Time for Pre-bid meeting, Tender Queries/Clarification & Other information as mentioned in KPPP Portal. Any changes either in tender date or any other condition tenderers can view in KPPP portal.

Sd/- EE PWD Division,Koppal.

DIPR/Koppal/514/DeshpandePublicity/2025-26

BENGALURU WEST CITY CORPORATION
Office of the Executive Engineer, Kengeri Division,
BBMP Office Building, CA No. 3, 1st Main Road, Outer Ring road, Kommaghatta Road, Kengeri Upanagara, Bengaluru-560060.

No. EE/KEN/TEND/04/2025-26 Date: 09-12-2025

INVITATION FOR TENDERS (IFT)

Short Term Tender Notification
Two cover system (Only through GoK KPP Portal)

The Executive Engineer, Kengeri Division, BWCC, Bengaluru on behalf the Commissioner, BWCC invites Proposals (Technical & Financial) appointing consultant for the below work.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work
1	Consultancy Services for preparation of Detailed Project Report for the work of Construction of ROB / RUB - ROB at Kengeri Satellite Town and RUB at Ramohalli Gate at Yeshwanthpur Constituency: 2025-26. EMD : **Rs. 70,000/-**

Calendar of Events: **(1)** RFP documents may be downloaded from KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 10.12.2025. (2)** Date of Pre-bid meeting : **12.12.2025 at 15.30 hours in the Office of the Chief Engineer, R.R. Nagar Zone-1, Ideal Homes, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Bengaluru-98. (3)** Last date for uploading of filled proposals: **17.12.2025 upto 16.00 hours. (4)** Date of opening of technical proposal : **18.12.2025 at 16.30 hours. (5)** Date of opening of Financial bid: **will be intimated to technically qualified bidders.** Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours or from KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Kengeri Division, BWCC Zone-1

KARNATAKA HOUSING BOARD
3rd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560 009.

Tender Notification (Though KPP Portal)

Notification No.: KHB/CE/PMC/Prajasoudha/KHB/2025-26/ SE0319 to 325 Date: 06.12.2025.

Karnataka Housing Board invites tender through Karnataka public procurement portal for Appointment of Project Management Consultant (PMC) for the work of Construction of Prajasoudha Taluk Adalitha Kendra at various places and Prajasoudha Vijayapura Jilla Adalitha Kendra in Karnataka for Revenue Department

Last date for submission of bid is on 22.12.2025 upto 4.00 PM

For further information contact below mentioned office address: Executive Engineer, Karnataka Housing Board, Cauvery Bhavan, Bengaluru. Tel: 080-22273511. Website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
DIPR/CP/4335/AKAR/2025-26 **Karnataka Housing Board, Bengaluru**

KARNATAKA HOUSING BOARD
3rd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560 009.

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

Karnataka Housing Board invite Tender from the eligible Pre qualified contractors & willing to Pre qualify in Karnataka Housing Board through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal for below mentioned work.

Sl.No.	Name of the Work
1	Renovation works of Commissioner Chamber, Boardroom, Passage & Waiting Lounge at 4th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, Karnataka Housing Board, Bengaluru. **Work Indent No:** KHB/2025-26 /OW/WORK_INDENT 670 & IFT No:118/2025-26 Date: 08.12.2025 **Amount Put to Tender:** Rs.1,90,34,926/-

Last date for submission of Bid: 16.12.2025 upto 4.00 PM

For further information, contact below mentioned office address: Executive Engineer, Karnataka Housing Board, Cauvery Bhavan, Bengaluru. Tel: 080-22273511 / 080-22100077 Website:https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- Executive Engineer
DIPR/CP/4328/CCL/2025-26 **Karnataka Housing Board, Bengaluru**

Government of Karnataka
DIRECTORATE OF URBAN LAND TRANSPORT URBAN DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER URBAN LAND TRANSPORT
BMTC, TTMC 'B' Block, (Above Bus Stand), 4th Floor, K.H.Road, Shanthinagar, Bengaluru-560027. Ph : 080-22226627 / 6628, Fax : 080-22226630, E-Mail : dultbangalore@gmail.com, dult@karnataka.gov.in, Website: https://dult.karnataka.gov.in

No: DULT-ADM/12/2021/1072 **Date: 09.12.2025**

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

Bids are invited from eligible organizations for providing vehicle services with drivers for a period of one year for the Directorate of Urban Land Transport, Urban Development Department, Government of Karnataka. **(E-Tender No: DULT/2025-26/SE0029)** The bid submission last date is **23.12.2025.** For further details visit **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.**

Sd/-
Joint Director (Admin)
DIPR/CP/4336/SSC/2025-26 **Directorate of Urban Land Transport Urban Development Department, Bangalore**

Karnataka Soaps & Detergents Limited
An ISO-9001:2015 & 14001:2015 Company
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Sandal City: P.B. No. 5531, Bengaluru-Pune Highway, Bengaluru - 560 055.
Ph: 080-22164879, 22164886, Website: **www.mysoresandal.org** e-mail: **ksdl.dgmmtls@gmail.com**

Date: 09.12.2025

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tenders are invited by **KS&DL** in two cover system through e–procurement portal (Website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)** with respect to supply of following Goods/Services/Works.

Sl. No.	Tender Number	Tender Name	Tender Quantity	Published date	Last Date of Submission
1	KSDL/2025-26/ SE0189	Disposal of 70-30 Noodles Bags at KSDL, Bengaluru Complex on AS IS WHERE IS BASIS.	Services	08-12-2025	29-12-2025

For any further queries/clarifications please contact the undersigned.

Sd/-
Asst. General Manager (Materials)

LOOKING FOR JOB OPPORTUNITY
Refer Classifieds on Wednesday

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

INVITATION FOR TENDERS (Through KPP Portal Only)

BWSSB invites Tenders from Registered agencies for the following works.

Office of the Chief Engineer (East), 6th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bangalore - 560 009.

Sl. No.	Division	IFT Number		Amount Put to Tender(Rs.) / EMD Amount(Rs.)	Last date & Time for submission of tender	Date and time for opening of tender
1	South East-2	BWSSB/EE(SE-2)/ TO/PB/3688/2025-26 Dt:08.12.2025	1	Rs. 76,55,762/- / Rs. 1,29,760/-	26.12.2025 upto 4.00 p.m.	29.12.2025 after 4.30 p.m.
			2	Rs. 81,77,300/- / Rs. 1,13,860/-		
			3	Rs.80,17,107/- / Rs. 1,35,890/-		
			4	Rs. 82,36,454/- / Rs. 1,39,601/-		
			5	Rs. 59,33,937/- / Rs. 1,00,580/-		

Sd/- Executive Engineer (South East-2)

Office of the Chief Engineer (South), 7th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bangalore - 560 009.

2	South West-1	BWSSB/EESW-1)/TO/PB/ 4404/2025-26 Dt:08.12.2025 (Reserved for CAT-IIA) (CALL-2)	1	Rs. 33,57,044/- / Rs. 33,600/-	19.12.2025 upto 4.00 p.m.	20.12.2025 after 4.05 p.m.
		BWSSB/EESW-1)/TO/PB/ 4404/2025-26 Dt:08.12.2025	2	Rs. 31,91,316/- / Rs. 63,850/-		
			3	Rs. 14,45,221/- / Rs. 36,150/-		
		BWSSB/EESW-1)/TO/PB/ 4404/2025-26 Dt:08.12.2025 (Reserved for ST Category)	4	Rs. 23,57,878/- / Rs. 25,000/-		
			5	Rs.23,73,772/- / Rs. 25,000-		

Sd/- Executive Engineer (South West-1)

3	South West-2	BWSSB/EESW-2/ TO/PB/4301/2025-26 Dt:08.12.2025	1	Rs. 16,59,833/- / Rs. 41,500/-	16.12.2025 upto 5.00 p.m.	18.12.2025 after 10.30 a.m.
			2	Rs. 14,90,402/- / Rs. 37,300/-		

Sd/- Executive Engineer (South West-2)

Office of the Chief Engineer (North), 6th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bangalore - 560 009.

4	North-2	BWSSB/ENTE/ AE-1/3093/2025-26 Dt:06.12.2025	1	Rs. 27,18,294/- / Rs. 54,400/-	18.12.2025 upto 3.00 p.m.	19.12.2025 after 4.00 p.m.

Sd/- Executive Engineer (North-2)

Office of the Chief Engineer (WWM-East), 5th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bangalore - 560 009.

5	WWM-(TV)	BWSSB/EE(WWM)TV/ PB/1778/2025-26 Dt:09.12.2025	1	Rs. 47.72 Lakhs / Rs. 0.95 Lakhs	18.12.2025 upto 4.00 p.m.	19.12.2025 at 4.10 p.m.

Sd/- Executive Engineer (WWM-TV)

The details regarding the tender and participating in the e-procurement process can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** For further details contact the above signed office during working hours.

DIPR/CP/JA/4317/2025-26

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Office of the Special Land Acquisition Officer-Head Office, No. 14/3, 1st Floor, Aravindha Bhavana Building, Nrupathunga Road, Bengaluru-560001.

No.: KIADB/LAQ/1050/2025-26 Date: 26.11.2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby informed to the general public and related Land Khatedars/Anubhavdars/interested people that 0-24 Gunte area of land in Survey No. 13/1 of Kurandahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Malur Taluk, Kolar District, for Industrial Area Development Project, Preliminary Notification No.: CI 50 SPQ(E) 2023 Dated 16.05.2023, published in Karnataka State Gazette Special Issue Part-3, Page Nos. 4523 to 4524, Gazette published dated 17.05.2023. It was informed that if there are any objections to this Land Acquisition Process, within 30 days from the date of publication in State Gazette, objections should be submitted in writing, in person or through authorized person to the Special Land Acquisition Officer, Head Office (KIADB), No. 14/3, C.F.C. Building, Maharshi Aravinda Bhavana, 1st Floor, Nrupathunga Road, Bengaluru – 560001. Details of the Lands for Acquisition are as below.

Sl. No	Name of Khatedar	Survey No.	Acquisition Area		
			Ainu A-G	Kharabu A-G	Remaining A-G
1	2	3	4	5	6
Village: Kurandahalli Hobli: Kasaba Taluk: Malur District: Kolar					
1	Baburao S/o Chandoji Rao, Pramila W/o Mallikarjuna Shetty	13/1	0-24	-	0-24

Abstract

Sl. No	Name of the Village	Acquisition Area		
		Ainu A–G	Kharab A–G	Remaining A–G
1	Kurandahalli	0-24	-	0-24
	Total	**0-24**	**-**	**0-24**

It is hereby informed to the Khathedars/ Anubhavadars/ Interested persons of the above mentioned Lands that under Karnataka Industrial Area Development Act 1966 Section 28 (2) Information Notices were issued to the Notified Khathedars/ Anubhavadars and sent by Registered Post. As addresses of some of the Land Owners were not found the postal department has sent back the envelopes with remarks to this Office. Khathedars/ Claimants of the above mentioned Lands should consider this Notification as Information Notice under K.I.A.D. Act 1966 Section 28 (2).

It is hereby informed that if there are any objections to this Land Acquisition Process, objections should be submitted in writing, in person or through authorized person with necessary documents to this office, within 30 days from the date of publication in State Gazette. It is brought to the knowledge of the public that objections received after the time period will not be considered. The enquiry of the lands of the above mentioned villages has been fixed on **16.12.2025 at 11.30 AM.** It is informed to submit along with documents in writing or in person.

Sd/- Special Land Acquisition Officer KIADB (Head Office)

DIPR/DD-C.P/4330/KSMCA/2025-26

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
Minor Irrigation and Ground Water Development Department. Office of the Executive Engineer Minor Irrigation and Ground Water Development Department Division Koppal. Phone & Fax No : 08539-220054 email: eemidnkst@rediffmail.com

No:EE/MI&GWDD/Koppal/PB/TP/2025-26/4277
Dated:03-12-2025

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER

The Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation and Ground Water Development Department Division Koppal district invites tenders from the eligible tenderers registered civil contractors as per standard bid documents KW-1,3 & KW-4 on KPP portal for 11 no. of tender works pertaining to Raichur district The Approximate amount for the mentioned works Ranges between Rs.20.00 Lakhs to 545.00 Lakhs. Two cover tender procedure as per rule 28 of the KTTP act shall be followed.

For more information the contractor can contact the under signed during office hours and all information regarding tenders can be had from website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/ The tender documents can be downloaded from the above website address on or after **09-12-2025.** Last date & time for receipt of tender is **18-12-2025** time 17.30 hours, Pre bid meeting will be held on **15-12-2025**, 11.00 Hours at division office koppal, Date & time for opening of technical bid **20-12-2025** time 11.00 hours, date and time for opening of financial bid **22-12-2025** time 11.00 hours (If technical bid sanction is accorded by the competent authority).

Sd/-Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation and Ground Water Development Department Division Koppal.

DIPR/Koppal/509/KSMCA/2025-26

KARNATAKA STATE FINANCIAL CORPORATION
(Established under the State Financial Corporation's Act 1951)
CENTRAL BRANCH OFFICE: Ground Floor, KSFC Bhavana, No.1/1, Thimmaiah Road, Near Cantonment Railway Station, Bengaluru-560052. Ph: 080-22265881, E-mail: central.ksfc@karnataka.gov.in

SALE OF INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY AT KUMBALGODU, BENGALURU

The following asset which has been taken over u/s 29 of SFC's Act 1951 for recovery of dues is available for sale on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" through e-auction. The interested persons to purchase the same may participate in the e-auction through e-portal.

1) Name of the unit: Dr. Shobha N

Description of the property: KSSIDC shed situated at plot No.C-50, KSSIDC Industrial Estate, Kumbalagodu, Mysore Road, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru, E-Khata Property No. 150200300200221943 measuring North-South 17.30mtrs, East-West 21.40 mtrs, together with buildings thereon. Total built up area of the Building is 1353 sq. mtrs having Ground, First, Second and Third floor. The property standing in the name of Dr. N.Shobha. Bounded by East by- KSSIDC Marginal land, West by-Shed No C-49, North by-Shed No.A-46, South by: Road

Public inspection Date: **15.12.2025** from **11.30 a.m.** to **1.30 p.m.**

Reserve Price: **Rs. 319.20 Lakhs.** EMD: **Rs. 31.90 Lakhs.**

1) E-auction will commence from **13.01.2026** at **11 a.m.** and closes on **17.01.2026** at **04.00 p.m.** (2) Last date for payment. of EMD and to obtain bid key is **12.01.2026** up to **4.00 p.m**

Terms and Conditions: 1) The sale is through e-auction and as detailed in website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** interested persons are advised to visit the aforesaid website. 2) This is also a 30 days statutory notice for sale of secured assets to the borrowers / Owners Further they are also informed to mobilise prospective buyers interested in buying the above property by participating in the e-auction to safeguard their interest. 3) For more details on e-procurement helpdesk No. **080-46010000 & 080-68948777** at e-procurement cell, 4th floor, Sri Arvind Bhavan, Mythic Society Compound, Nrupathunga Road, Bangalore-560 001. 4) All statutory dues and other dues/taxes payable to local authorities/State BESCOM/development charges/GST if any are payable by the purchaser.

Date: 10.12.2025 **Sd/-**
Place: Bengaluru **Deputy General Manager**

DECCAN HERALD
ESTABLISHED 1948

Survivor stands tall, system falls short

The judgment of the trial court in the case about the abduction and rape of a leading actress in the Malayalam film industry raises many questions about the delivery of justice, women's safety, and judicial and social attitudes concerning them. The principal sessions court in Ernakulam, Kerala, on December 8, acquitted actor Dileep, who was accused of the conspiracy behind the rape, and convicted six others who were accused of the crime. The judgment comes after eight years of investigation and trial, which were marked by obstructionist and delaying tactics allegedly employed by the accused actor. The case was unprecedented because it involved a rape committed by paid criminals. The survivor's decision to identify herself and pursue the case was also unprecedented. It shook the Malayalam film industry and touched emotional chords across society, giving rise to empathy, revulsion, anger, and introspection, and raised questions about justice and women's safety and honour.

The judgment has not given satisfactory answers to these questions. The court did not find evidence of the alleged conspiracy. The charge of criminal conspiracy is difficult to prove in courts. But there was enough material in the public realm and facts brought out by the investigation, which pointed to the conspiracy to punish the survivor for reasons considered to be personal. As the trial progressed, the survivor and the prosecution sought a change of judge as they thought the judge was not receptive to their case. There were reported adjournments, and the prosecution felt it was not allowed to present evidence. Two prosecutors resigned, claiming that they could not function effectively. There was alleged destruction of evidence on which the court did not act. As many as 28 witnesses turned hostile, and there was even a seemingly convincing claim of a money trail from the alleged mastermind to the first accused who perpetrated the rape.

The acquittal of actor Dileep has reignited questions about justice and women's safety

It is widely believed that there was a serious miscarriage of justice in the case, and the victim of criminal sexual assault also became the victim of an insensitive judicial process. She was also attacked and vilified in a smear campaign. The Kerala government has announced that it would appeal the judgment. The case led to the government ordering an inquiry into sexual abuse and harassment in the Malayalam film industry. The Hema Committee report threw light on the misogynistic and exploitative situation in the film industry. The assault also led to the formation of the Women in Cinema Collective, and a better awareness of women's rights and needs in the industry. The judgment has led to affirmation of support for the survivor from large sections of society, but also the digging in of patriarchal elements that always supported the acquitted star.

Metro dreams turn into commuter nightmares

Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda's recent outburst over the glacial pace of Namma Metro construction reflects a frustration that millions of Bengalureans share daily. During his inspection of the Blue Line works from Nagawara Junction to Yelahanka, he was astonished that a single pillar had taken more than two years to complete, prompting him to ask whether this was 'rocket science'. His anger was not rhetorical theatre. It came from standing amid blocked carriageways, debris piled on footpaths, choked service lanes, and traffic reduced to a crawl for years, with little visible progress to justify the inconvenience. Citizens, too, have long wondered why entire stretches of roads are barricaded when the work seems to advance at a snail's pace. Prolonged congestion has eroded productivity, increased travel times, and worsened air quality. What compounds the problem is the absence of basic site discipline: unremoved debris, poor drainage and battered service roads. In a city where every disrupted kilometre affects tens of thousands of commuters, people have a right to expect faster and more accountable execution.

Yet the solution is not as simple as asking the Bengaluru Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) to finish two kilometres at a time before moving ahead. Metro corridors are built through large construction 'packages', each spanning several kilometres and awarded to different contractors. Heavy machinery, casting yards, and specialised equipment cannot be shifted every few weeks; nor can financing from funding agencies be utilised in tiny fragments. Moreover, system integration—tracks, signalling, electrification—requires uniform progress across the corridor. While design is meant to ensure that work progresses simultaneously across the entire length, thereby saving time, in Bengaluru, it appears to have had the opposite effect, with construction stalled at various segments.

Bengaluru demands urgency, not excuses, from Metro project

What can change is the way this strategy is implemented. First, the government must enforce strict micro-milestones: the time taken for piers, pier caps, and segment launching cannot be open-ended. Penalties for delays should be real, not cosmetic. Second, the BMRCL must insist on better site management—daily debris clearance, restoration of service lanes, and proper drainage. Third, the city urgently needs better coordination between all civic agencies involved, the BMRCL, and, where applicable, the National Highways Authority of India, to resolve issues in real time. Finally, once major civil work in any section is completed, barricades must be removed without delay, and the full carriageway restored, even if station construction is underway. Bengaluru does not demand miracles. It simply wants a Metro built with urgency, coordination, and respect for the millions who use these roads every day.

INDIAN ECONOMY

8.2% growth is good. Now read fine print

Fast growth does not equal strong foundations; the IMF's Grade C is a reminder

DEEPANSHU MOHAN AND GEETAALI MALHOTRA

India's latest GDP figures position the economy to be producing at a significantly higher level than last year, emphasised by the Rs 48.63 lakh-crore output projected to be realised in a single quarter.

An 8.2% GDP increase indicates that this rise is part of a genuine momentum rather than merely a post-pandemic bounce.

The increase in real GVA from Rs 82.88 lakh-crore to Rs 89.41 lakh-crore further indicates that agriculture, industry, and services are experiencing genuine rise in value added and not just rise in prices.

The real numbers hold up because the nominal GDP increased by 8.8%, demonstrating that the inflation remained under check. Private Final Consumption Expenditure rising by 7.9% show that households are spending more. Agriculture's 3.5% growth, supported by fuller reservoirs and better horticulture output, points to a small but real improvement in rural incomes.

These figures make the Indian economy appear to look like it is moving forward even as much of the world is eclipsed in greater economic uncertainty. However, every headline has its shadow. Here, this shadow appears in form of a shocker when the IMF announced that India has been assigned a 'Grade C' in its recent assessment on its national income accounting.

There are multiple shortcomings highlighted by the IMF team which require careful consideration: 'a) Use of an outdated base year (2011/12); b) Use of wholesale price indices as data sources for deflators due to the lack of producer prices indices; c) Excessive use of single deflation, which may introduce cyclical biases; d) Sizeable discrepancies between production and expenditure approaches that may indicate the need to enhance the coverage of the expenditure approach data and the informal sector; e) Lack of seasonally adjusted data and room for improvement of other statistical techniques used in the quarterly national accounts compilation, and a Lack of consolidated data on states and local bodies after 2019'.

How can India possibly be underrated when it's racing at 8% while the world limps at 3%? The truth lives in the footnotes. The RBI's Annual Report (2024-2025) recognises that the economy has performed well, but it also quietly lays out the structural issues that still drag down India's credibility.

Inflation, which had been high for much of the previous years, finally eased, and even slipped below target toward the end of 2024-2025. Banks experienced significant credit growth and could lend with a clean balance sheet, maintaining capital buffers which are far more than regulatory requirements.

On the Budget front, the Centre stuck to the path of consolidation with the help

of strong GST and direct tax collections, and successfully managed to keep the spending mix relatively high-quality.

Countries with discretionary exercises in projecting the good alone in numbers have two narratives: the one they tell the world, and the other they only whisper. India's 8.2% is the story its government wants to tell the world. The IMF's C is the whisper.

An economy appearing to grow fast is not the same thing as an economy growing well. What the IMF is saying that India's institutional bones are not yet as strong as its muscle.

Mining output was hit by an unusually long monsoon, while electricity generation slowed because of a milder-than-usual winter that reduced heating and peak-load demand. Although these might seem like fleeting weather phenomena, they significantly undermined the industrial base of the year.

The unevenness is evident even in this strong quarter. Electricity and utilities grew only 4.4%, and mining barely moved at 0.04%. These are the backbone sectors and subsequently their sluggishness signals that the recovery is not evenly spread across the real economy. According to nominal GVA, the primary sector accounted for 14%, the secondary sector for 26%, and the tertiary sector for 60% in Q2.

These proportions look normal for a service-led economy, but India's case is different because its employment structure does not match its output structure: too many Indians still work in agriculture and low-wage services, sectors that contribute little to productivity gains.

The RBI cautions that India's export trajectory will continue to be impacted by growing trade protectionism, tariff uncertainty, and geopolitical tensions. Services exports and remittances help cushion the current account, but they cannot substitute for a diversified and scaled-up goods export engine—one that India still lacks. Another contradiction shows up in the financial markets. The rupee looked stable from a distance, but underneath, it was constantly being pushed down by a strong US dollar and the usual swings in foreign capital.

When one realises that the IMF is grading the architecture that supports India's growth rather than its growth rate, its Grade C makes sense. A country can grow at 8% and still have structural vulnerabilities.

It can post healthy GVA numbers and still have weak institutional capacity at the state level, low labour productivity, and an export profile mismatched with global demand. The GDP captures the pace of economic activity; it does not capture the quality of governance that sustains it.

The true conflict is that, despite India's robust short-term economic momentum, its long-term framework is still being developed.

Even with the strong Q2 performance, broad-sector analysis shows agriculture growing only 3.5%, utilities at 4.4%, and mining barely above zero, sectors that collectively employ millions but contribute less and less to value creation.

This does not diminish the achievement of 8.2% growth. However, it makes the narrative more difficult. The IMF's C serves as a subtle reminder to see past the quarterly glow and recognise the unresolved issues in economic structure, finance, and governance. India is leading the way. What it needs now is the depth.

(Deepanshu is professor and dean, OP Jindal Global University, and director, Centre for New Economics Studies (CNES). Geetaali is research analyst, CNES).

RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE

Life, lost and found

My weight loss journey taught me that joy isn't always zero-calorie

APARNA SREEVATSA

Now that December is here, I see people looking back at their New Year resolutions and the weight-loss plans they had made for 2025. It reminds me of a phase in my life four years ago, when I decided to lose the 10 kgs I had gained during my twin pregnancy.

Weight gain during maternity is considered normal, even harmless, but once my twins turned two, I made up my mind to shed it—and to leave no stone unturned.

Diet, exercise, cutting out every extra calorie, and adding anything that might help me lose weight became my new *mantra*. When I began counting calories and looked at the plate recommended for weight loss, I remembered my mother telling me during pregnancy that I wasn't eating for one person but for three. In truth, I had eaten for six. Now, I had to eat for half a person.

Half my plate became salads and boiled vegetables. Chewing slowly through mountains of greens, I felt less like half a person and more like a sheep in a pasture.

I took up the rituals of exercise. I went from Angela Arnold's gentle workouts to Arnold Schwarzenegger's 'pump it up' YouTube videos in the same week.

I realised that I was "poisoning" myself with milk and sugar, so I started drinking black coffee. I was ready to sacrifice anything that stood between me and weight loss. One day, I triumphantly offered a cup of black coffee from my new coffee maker to my father-in-law. He took a sip and promptly spluttered it out. That said it all—but I endured the black coffee.

Soon, I was drinking three cups of green tea a day. It didn't taste any better than black coffee, but I did it anyway. Around that time, I heard a Kannada song that went, "*kudithale* green tea *pakkadamane* aunty" (the aunty next-door drinks green tea). Drinking that bitter brew, I couldn't help thinking how I had officially become that aunty after giving birth to three children.

The final nail in the coffin was chamomile tea. When I began having trouble sleeping, Google told me chamomile tea might help. The next day, I was sipping it dutifully. Weeks later I finally read the box and discovered chamomile tea contains no actual tea. Zero. I had graduated from *pakkadamane* aunty to a sheep grazing on fancy chamomile flowers. That was the day I said goodbye to all herbal teas and black coffee.

I made myself a cup of strong filter coffee—with milk and sugar. I savoured it, misty-eyed, and realised how much I had missed.

Whether I was an aunty or not, I wanted to live like a human being, not like a sheep. So filter coffee was back in my life.

Four years later, I did shed those extra 10 kgs. But more importantly, I'm happy—I'm living like a human again.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

India needs governance, not rhetorical detours

It has become increasingly evident that the ruling dispensation at the Centre, even after 12 uninterrupted years in power, remains unusually fixated on revisiting the eras of Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi. What began as a political contrast has now hardened into a convenient habit, a reflexive attempt to outsource present-day accountability to leaders long gone. The latest flare-up over Vande Mataram is a telling example. If past governments had indeed committed deep structural wrongs, what prevented the present regime, equipped with a commanding mandate and legislative muscle, from introducing corrective measures through Parliament? Meanwhile, critical issues demanding immediate attention continue to pile up: the IndiGo crisis, the declining rupee, the persistent unemployment burden, and an atmosphere of economic unease affecting every household. These are not abstract problems; they are lived realities that require governance, not rhetorical detours.

Mudgal Venkatesh, Kalaburagi

Strengthen regulation

Apropos 'Weak regulation and tainted capitalism' (Dec 9), the IndiGo incident highlights the urgent need for a better regulatory framework to govern India's aviation sector. Weak regulations are strengthening power-driven practices that sideline consumer interests. Regulators must prioritise safety, access, and accountability over profit.

Mugdha Gairola, Bengaluru

One plan, one authority

Apropos 'One city, multiple plans, utter chaos' (Dec 5), having multiple master plans for the city just creates more confusion and chaos. This shows there is no clear vision for the development of the city, as different areas follow different plans. For the development of the city, it requires one unified plan given by one unified authority.

Prisha Rampuria, Bengaluru

Prioritise local culture

The Telangana government's proposal to name a road in Hyderabad after US President Donald Trump has sparked debate. While this initiative may be seen as a gesture of global cooperation, it is essential to consider the region's cultural heritage and history. Preserving our cultural identity is crucial to maintaining our individual importance in the world. We should be cautious about integrating foreign influences that may erode our unique cultural values.

Shoabana Ramarathnam, Bengaluru

Our readers are welcome to email letters to: **letters@deccanherald.co.in** (only letters emailed – not handwritten – will be accepted). All letters must carry the sender's postal address and phone number.

SPEAK OUT

Our freedom fighters wouldn't have imagined that a government (post-Independence) would be formed which would be worse, more cruel, and more oppressive than the British.... AAP is the only hope, and I want to tell the people that you have to save Gujarat.

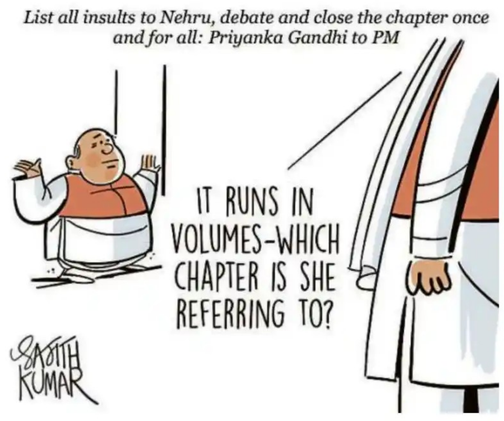
Arvind Kejriwal, Aam Aadmi Party leader

By aggrandising one's own abilities and achievements, the grandiose person remains out of touch with who they truly are...

Steven Franssen

TO BE PRECISE

List all insults to Nehru, debate and close the chapter once and for all: Priyanka Gandhi to PM



IN PERSPECTIVE

A troubling turn to pre-screening

It is easy to manipulate the term anti-national by conflating criticism of the regime with that of the nation

SUHIT K SEN

A Supreme Court bench led by Chief Justice Surya Kant nudged the information and broadcasting ministry on November 27 to frame a draft mechanism for pre-screening user-generated content on social media.

Elaborating on the necessity of such a framework, the two-judge bench said, 'Right to freedom of speech is very important but a regulated right. ...If anti-national content is uploaded on social media, by the time the government notices it and orders its takedown...it would go viral and cause damage to, or unrest in, society.' It also said the right to free speech must be given the 'widest width', but since prosecution is a 'post-occurrence', there should be a 'preventive mechanism to prevent misinformation and damage to society', with regard to social media.

The judges clarified they would not 'gag expression of views or freedom of speech', but wanted a 'reasonable preventive mechanism not to throttle but sieve content'. There was a 'statutory vacuum' that needed to be filled.

This judicial order raises several questions, of which we will look at two. First, there is the issue of privacy. In August 2017, a nine-judge constitutional bench hearing the *Puttaswami* case overturned previous judicial pronouncements and ruled that the right to privacy, being intrinsic to the rights to life and liberty, was indeed a fundamental right. This, read alongside the right to freedom of expression guaranteed by Article 19 of the Constitution, should give the citizenry wide latitude in conducting their quotidian lives and expressing political and ideological positions. We shall return to this point.

The second and related issue is the flagging of 'anti-national' content as a reason for pre-screening social-media content. We are all aware of the way in which the current regime has weaponised the concept and rhetoric of 'anti-nationality', inventing the vacuous category of 'Urban Naxal' to persecute critics. Given its polyvalence, it is easy to manipulate the term anti-national by conflating criticism of the head of the government or the regime with that of the nation or the State. At the proceedings, Prashant Bhushan, one of the advocates, pointed at the definitional problems, but was countered by the Bench, which proposed a hypothetical. Bhushan's point about questioning the accession of Sikkim or the occupation of Indian territory by China led Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta to protest against secession being instigated during judicial proceedings. This underlines the kind of conflation and weaponisation of fuzzy concepts we are discussing.

In this wider context, it was unfortunate that the Supreme Court, which is tasked with protecting citizens' rights and freedoms against executive overreach, should have picked precisely the concept that the regime uses to beat them down.

Which brings us to the bigger issue of the protection of fundamental rights generally. Since Independence, most of the time when citizens' rights and 'reasons of state' have come into conflict, the higher judiciary has favoured the exigencies of governments. That has especially been the case with 'exception-making' laws, which were smuggled into the post-colonial era from the repressive colonial-era apparatus. Thus, laws for preventive detention, usually against 'terrorism', another polyvalent, hard-to-define category, have got a free pass.

Even stringent provisions of laws that at first sight have no obvious exception-making logic, the Prevention of Money Laundering Act and Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, for instance, have received a judicial imprimatur.

This has created what has been called a permanent state of legal and judicial exception in the country, in which fundamental rights have been rendered vulnerable. Of these rights, the freedom of expression—the critically important right to offend, for instance—has been the biggest casualty.

In the current conjuncture, a majoritarian regime is making the most of the situation. Alongside the right to expression, minority rights are also taking a beating, as are minority groups.

There have, of course, been important pro-rights judgments, as with the admission of the right to privacy into the pantheon of fundamental rights, alongside the judicial support for gay rights, and reservations on the basis of upholding the right to equality.

Unfortunately, there has been no concerted judicial project to build on them to consolidate a rights-friendly body of jurisprudence.

(The writer is author of The Paradox of Populism: The Indira Gandhi Years, 1966-1977).

'BJP may use caste census to undermine caste-based reservation and legitimise EWS'

The highly polarising caste census debate took an unexpected turn when the BJP-led NDA decided to enumerate castes in the upcoming census, much against the ideological positions of the RSS-BJP. Though this was widely celebrated in social justice circles, public intellectual and anti-caste proponent Anand Teltumbde is unamused. He speaks about his latest book, Caste Con Census.

Anand Teltumbde,
public intellectual and anti-caste proponent in conversation with
Sujay B M

THE DEEP TAKE

● The social justice circle is celebrating the political consensus on this issue but you call it a con. Why?
I am not against the caste census. As someone from a data science background, I cannot be against data. However, have post-colonial regimes shown concern for people's issues? This will marginalise other issues and create caste turbulence. The fact that the BJP has turned around from its earlier vehement opposition connotes something fishy.

● You question the BJP's track record in data management. Why?
Data is not a neutral thing. There's politics at every stage in surveys extracting caste data. The conceptual design itself is political and BJP's track record is well known — international institutes are disbelieving Indian data, and the IMF has given our GDP data a 'C' grade. Various inferences could be drawn from the same data.

● As a critic of the BJP's EWS scheme, do you think this data may be used to argue against caste-based reservation?
Yes. During the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, PM Narendra Modi mocked the caste census as an 'Urban Naxal' idea but the Cabinet suddenly announced this (on April 30) without any explanation. Can you not smell a rat? The 2024 Lok Sabha elections were a defeat of sorts, where the BJP relied on Nitish Kumar and Chandrababu Naidu's support to retain power. With Nitish supporting the caste census, it would seem odd for the BJP to oppose it before the Bihar elections. The BJP will not go against the long-term ideological goal inherited from the RSS of removing caste-based reservation. Wealthy sections of the upper caste, like Sudha Murty and Narayana Murthy, will not participate in this census. Only the economically weaker upper castes will be enumerated, using which the BJP can create a narrative that even the upper castes are as backward as others. This will be used to abolish the caste-based reservation system.

● Though you favour data analysis, some conservatives have misinterpreted the positions in your book as anti-reservation.
I have not come across such criticism about my book but I am aware of these general comments around me. I have said several times that I am not against reservation, but people should realise that neoliberal policies have devastated the public and government sector.

● Don't you think the caste census sensitises society about the power asymmetry along caste lines?
My counter question is whether you need a caste census to know that. Because there are many bits of data that can show that. Even if you see the SECC survey, the leaked data showed that the upper castes are not even 15% – they are 8-12%. Kanshi Ram's dictum was 15% (upper castes) vs 85% (other castes). Reformers like Jyothiba Phule could instinctively sense the numerical superiority of the backward communities and hence coined the slogan: 'Shudra-Ati Shudra' as opposed to 'Shetji-Bhatji.'

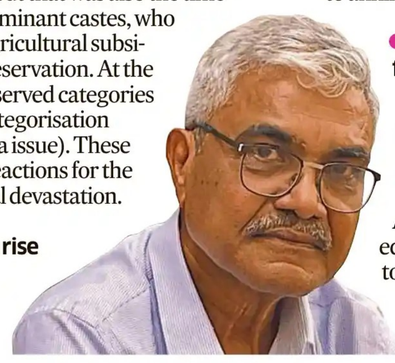
Scan to watch the interview

● Why do you think that the idea of the caste census as introduced by the British tried not to annihilate but rather solidify caste?
The British rigidified the caste system, which was earlier a local and contextual system. The caste census codified caste, linking people from different states based on caste similarity. Each caste wanted to enumerate itself as superior to its societal status. That's how the Bhumihars in Bihar, a landed and powerful caste counted as Shudras, started enumerating as Bhumihar Brahmins. However, the reservation policy in the post-colonial period has led to competitive victimhood — each caste trying to fight for its quota share.

● You point out that in the unequal neoliberal set-up, universal capacity building is essential for reservations to work. Why?
Reservation, which tries to correct caste-structured exclusion, is on a different axis than neoliberalism, which creates inequalities in the present through the market system. Reservation cannot address the concentration of wealth, corporatisation or the withdrawal of the State. Universal capacity building is necessary for reservations to work. If you look at Nordic countries, targeted schemes worked on the basis of universal capacity building. In India, neoliberalism started eroding the base for reservations, but that was also the time when rural dominant castes, who were losing agricultural subsidies, sought reservation. At the same time, reserved categories sought sub-categorisation (Mala - Madiga issue). These are the twin reactions for the new neoliberal devastation.

● Doesn't the rise of Mandal politics in the 1990s, which increased demand for reservations, contradict the simultaneous erosion of reservations under neoliberal policies?
Yes. This actually shows our intellectual poverty. We shouldn't get carried away by the discourses created by the State.

● You conclude the book by saying that the caste census shouldn't substitute the ultimate goal: the annihilation of caste...
The reservation discourse has some vested interests, who bristle at the mention of caste annihilation. They adore Ambedkar, but Ambedkar himself gave the *mantra* of caste annihilation. This is doable . I am not against short-term measures like reservation, but they should go alongside the long-term goal to annihilate caste.



● Why do you advocate for a broad coalition of caste and class politics as the long-term solution for annihilating caste?
Caste cannot be dynamited without a revolution. All oppressed and exploited people have to come together because only the oppressed caste cannot address this gigantic problem.

The 15-year effort by Japan is a model for countries now scrambling to reduce their dependence on Beijing's critical metals

RIVER AKIRA DAVIS AND KIUKO NOTOYA

DH ILLUSTRATION: DEEPAK HARICHANDAN

How Japan built a rare-earth supply chain without China

The world reacted with alarm this year when Beijing introduced waves of export controls on rare earths, the minerals vital to the manufacturing of everything from cars to advanced electronics. For Japan, the experience felt like déjà vu.

China maintains a near monopoly on the supply of the metals. Japan learned that the hard way in 2010 when China effectively cut it off during a territorial dispute between the countries. Tokyo has since quietly stitched together a supply chain that is considerably less dependent on China. For Japan, that is an important hedge to political risk, as a recent flare-up in tensions between the nations underscores.

As the United States and other nations scramble to secure rare earths outside China and build up their domestic supplies, Japan's experience provides lessons in how it can be done, according to interviews with current and former government officials, business executives and industry experts in Japan.

"The urgency of the rare-earths situation is just now dawning on the United States and Europe," said Naoki Kobayashi, an official working in the minerals division of Japan's trade ministry. "For Japan, this painful lesson came 15 years ago," he said.

President Donald Trump has said he believes it will take the United States about a year to secure ample rare-earth supplies. But Japan is a case study in how hard it is to pull out of China's grip — especially its extremely cost competitive rare-earth processing facilities. Experts say such an effort requires both sustained government support and international collaboration.

In September 2010, a collision near disputed islands between a Chinese fishing trawler and two Japanese coast guard vessels escalated into a diplomatic and economic crisis. Japan detained the captain of the Chinese ship, and Beijing, in retaliation, implemented an unannounced, two-month embargo on rare-earth exports.

At first, the significance of China's move was lost on some Japanese officials.

Tatsuya Terazawa was in charge of economic policy at Japan's trade ministry in 2010. He recalled that the ministry's lead auto industry official rushed to his desk, warning that the entire automotive supply chain could be suspended because of the sudden cutoff.

"I had to confess, I had zero knowledge about rare earths," Terazawa said. He said his colleague explained that these materials were essential ingredients for the magnets used in motors across Japan's auto sector. And Japan, like most industrialized nations, had ceded control of this vital supply almost entirely to China.

Terazawa was responsible for developing the trade ministry's next suite of economic policies. He compiled a package, worth a little over $1 billion at the time, aimed at reducing Japan's supply chain vulnerability to rare earths. It included substantial support for Japanese groups to diversify rare-earth sources.

"At the time, I was criticized that I was demanding much more money than necessary," Terazawa said. "But I was determined that Japan never repeat this incident."

The timing was, in some ways, opportune. Sojitz, a Japanese conglomerate, and Jogmec, the government body overseeing mineral resource security, were seeking non-Chinese rare-earth options. And Lynas, an Australian mining company, was dealing with financial difficulties.

Lynas was trying to create the world's first integrated rare-earths supply chain without using China, instead mining the ores in Australia and refining them in Malaysia. But it was struggling to amass the capital it needed to increase production at its Malaysian refining site.

Sojitz had to find sources of rare earths outside China. Without stable supplies, "factories in many places would have to stop operating," said Kosuke Uemura, the CEO of Sojitz. At the time, "Lynas was the only option," he said.

In 2011, Jogmec and Sojitz did a deal that provided $250 million in loans and equity to Lynas. The transaction secured for Japan a long-term supply of rare earths sourced outside China.

Today, in Western Australia, workers on the remote Mount Weld volcanic plug are flown out from Perth on rotations to extract rare-earth ore from an open-pit mine owned by Lynas.

The partially purified concentrate is then shipped 5,000 miles to the company's facility in Kuantan, Malaysia — until this year, the only large-scale rare-earth separation plant operating outside China. There, the materials are refined through a chemical process into individual rare-earth oxides pure enough to use in manufacturing.

From Malaysia, the metals are transported another 3,000 miles to Japan, where Sojitz manages distribution to domestic magnet makers. In Japan, the magnets are used in a number of products, including vehicles produced by automakers such as Toyota.

Early challenges

Japan has significantly bolstered its supply chain resilience. While industry estimates placed Japanese rare-earth imports from China at 90% or more during the 2010 trade dispute, that figure now stands closer to 60% to 70%.

Sojitz received its first large shipments of rare earths from the Malaysia facility in 2012 and has continued to expand the breadth of metals it imports. In October, it added a type of specialized, heat-resistant magnet ingredients to its portfolio.

According to Uemura, the toughest bottleneck was the refining process in Malaysia. The chemical separation of rare earths produces large volumes of acidic waste and thousands of tons of low-level radioactive residue. Proper management and disposal of the waste is expensive and time consuming.

Between 2011 and 2012, the Lynas facility in Malaysia faced months of delays because of fierce local opposition and legal challenges. The facility began operating only after it revised its residue management plan multiple times.

This year, China introduced expansive rare-earth export controls, first in April and again in October, restricting the materials themselves and the processing technology. Beijing's measures targeted all exports, not just those bound for Japan.

Although the broader October restrictions were temporarily suspended through a truce with the United States in November, countries are scrambling to lessen their dependency on China.

The Trump administration has begun investing federal money to construct a domestic supply chain. The effort entails support for the sole US rare-earth mining operation at Mountain Pass, California, as well as for processing and magnet manufacturing facilities in North Carolina and Texas. **NYT**

Everyday rights, everyday dignity

ASHIT MOHAN PRASAD

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

Human Rights Day is observed every year on December 10, marking the United Nations General Assembly's adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) in 1948. The day is commemorated through conferences, workshops, meetings and cultural events highlighting human concerns worldwide. The UN High Commissioner plays a pivotal role in monitoring violations across the globe.

The theme for this year, "Human Rights – Our Everyday Essentials", highlights that human rights are not abstract principles, but tangible aspects of daily life-- food, water, safety and dignity. All human beings are born free and equal, with the right to life, freedom from slavery and torture, equality before the law, freedom of expression and opinion, and access to essential needs including food, shelter, health and education.

Established on October 12, 1993, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) serves as the conscience keeper of human rights in India, protecting dignity, ensuring fairness and accountability, and safeguarding the vulnerable. Upholding the core constitutional values of justice, equality, dignity and liberty, the NHRC takes *suo-motu* cognisance of violations. Over the past 32 years, it has handled over 23.5 lakh cases, including 3,000 *suo-motu* matters, and recommended compensation of more than Rs 263 crore in 8,924 cases.

Through investigations, advisories, interventions, and advocacy, the Commission has amplified the voices of the marginalised. Its interventions have addressed critical concerns such as ending manual scavenging, mental health, beggary, and the rights of older persons and LGBTQ+ communities. It also monitors the rights of workers—drivers, sanitation, and construction workers and the vast migrant labour force in the informal sector.

New challenges such as climate change-induced displacement and the rights of prison inmates, including reintegration and rehabilitation, have emerged as pressing areas of focus. The Commission ensures that access to sanitation, electricity, healthcare, education and housing are provided to every citizen. Repealing archaic laws and simplifying procedures have further improved access to rights. Landmark enactments such as the Mental Health Care Act, 2017, and the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019, have promoted rights protections.

The Indian Constitution reminds us that rights come with duties. Fundamental rights guarantee a humane, just and inclusive India. Writs and public interest litigations ensure that these rights remain inalienable and the State is not permitted to curtail them arbitrarily.

Human rights are universal and inalienable to all humans, and fundamental rights are guaranteed by a nation's Constitution—such as the right to equality, freedom of speech and expression, freedom of religion and the right to constitutional remedies. While human rights envisage a just, free and fair life, fundamental rights are legally enforceable—each enabling the other.

In recent times, the NHRC has taken proactive steps in a number of cases of human rights violations to ensure justice, fairness and dignity. Following a fire in the ICU trauma centre of the government-run Sawai Man Singh Hospital in Jaipur, resulting in eight deaths, the NHRC sought a report on administrative lapses and compensation. It has intervened similarly in the death of seven workers in a firecracker unit explosion (in Andhra Pradesh).

The Commission has taken cognisance of custodial violence cases -- including the case of a 17-year-old boy tortured in police custody in Rajkot and the death of a student after assault by a police constable captured on CCTV. Other incidents include deaths due to cleaning unsafe sewers, collapse of structures, corporal punishment leading to the death of a child and electrocution at a festival venue.

Through timely and effective interventions, the NHRC continues to uphold human rights to the highest standards. On this day, it is necessary to create awareness among all stakeholders and citizens to ensure and contribute to building an egalitarian society with zero tolerance for human rights violations.

(The writer is a retired DGP and Special Rapporteur, NHRC-Karnataka)

OUR PAGES OF HISTORY

50 YEARS AGO: DECEMBER 1975

55 dead in fiercest gun battle on Beirut streets

Beirut, December 9
Left-wing Muslim and Christian Phalangist gunmen, locked in the heaviest fighting in eight months of civil war, battled across commercial and financial districts of Beirut today despite Army attempts to separate them. Fighting with mortars, rockets and machine-guns raged unchecked throughout the night and early today, leaving at least 55 persons dead and more than 100 wounded, police sources said.

25 YEARS AGO: DECEMBER 2000

Fluorosis, the scourge of Bagepalli

Bangalore, Dec 9
Small boys and girls of Bagepalli taluk are afraid to smile, because they are ashamed of their red and swollen gums and crooked teeth. Srirama is only 15 years old but his legs are deformed and his body is stunted and often suffers from depression caused by skeletal fluorosis, maiming him permanently. Fluorosis, which is raging in Bagepalli taluk in Kolar district since many years, has affected 1,12,328 people-- 10,404 suffering from dental fluorosis and 251 skeletal fluorosis.

OASIS | BHARTENDU SOOD

Why the Vedas have a special place

It has been the opinion of many seers and sages of India that the Vedas were revealed by the Almighty at the beginning of the universe for guiding mankind. Like a consumer is given a user manual with the machinery he buys, the Vedas are the manual for human life on earth as to how a human being with his focus on balanced growth by way of physical, mental and spiritual development can lead his life to achieve the fourfold goals of life: Dharma, Artha, Kaam and Moksha. Aimed to inspire man to make the fullest use of this life, enjoy without attachment, achieve an internal state of balance and harmony and earn an almost permanent bliss here and hereafter.

In a way Vedas have the knowledge that a man needs for his sustenance and development on the earth planet. Every minute and meaningful knowledge of the Universe, guidance or instructions for individuals, domestic, social, national or international harmonious, sustainable and holistic development is provided in the Vedas in seed forms. No aspect of human activity and no sphere of world knowledge are beyond the confines of the Vedas. If it dwells on the duties of a student, it also speaks about the duties of a teacher. Likewise, a king and his subjects can work in perfect harmony for the development and advancement of the State so that everyone feels the glow of progress.

The Vedas transcend boundaries of religion, caste or race. Nowhere in the Vedas is there any reference to any religion. It is directed towards the upliftment of human beings irrespective of their religion or origin. 'Manurbhav' is its cherished goal. 'Be a man' and lead your life by linking yourself with other human beings and creatures. The Vedas encapsulate how an individual should live so that he moves from physical progress to spiritual advancement and, in the process, attains eternal bliss called moksha. At the same time, he has not to be satisfied and happy only with his personal advancement but should work for the advancement and growth of all in the society in which he lives. These lessons are in the form of hymns in Sanskrit. We don't need to memorise and chant these hymns; we need to understand the message and try to embrace it in life.

Thus, the Vedas have a special place, as these are believed to have existed much before the notion of religions in the world was even born.

Census 2027 to record data on reasons for migration

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) on Tuesday said the Census 2027 will collect migration-related data, including duration of stay at the current residence and the reason for migration.

In a written reply to a question by Samajwadi Party MP Sanatan Pandey, Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai told Lok Sabha that information of every individual is collected at the place where they are found during the entire enumeration period.

"Further, migration data is collected for each and every individual based on their place of birth and place of last residence. The census also collects information on the duration of stay at the current residence and the reason for migration," he said.

Rai was responding to a question on whether any special provisions are being made for counting migrant workers and temporary residents during the Census-2027, and whether a separate data collection process is proposed for the same.

He said the questionnaire for the Census is notified before conducting field work by the Central Government through the Official Gazette.

'Biggest act of vote theft': Rahul hits out at 'BJP-EC collusion'

Slams Modi for tweaking hiring process of poll panel chiefs

SHEMIN JOY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday accused the BJP of committing the 'biggest...act' of 'vote chori' (stealing of votes) by 'directing and using' the Election Commission.

Participating in a 'Discussion on Election Reforms' in Lok Sabha, Rahul brought Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah in the line of fire for changes in laws to tweak the appointment process of election commissioners, provide them a 'gift of immunity' and allow the destruction of CCTV footage of the polling process after 45 days.

In his nearly 30-minute speech that saw some disruption after BJP MPs objected to his reference of 'vote chori' to aid 'capturing' of institutions, the Raebareli MP alleged he was 'absolutely sure' that the BJP won Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Haryana, among others, by stealing votes.

Reiterating some of the demands he made earlier, Rahul said the biggest reforms would be to provide machine machine-readable voter list to parties one month before every election, annulling the law allowing destruction of CCTV footage after 45 days and allowing access to the architecture of the EVMs so that they could examine it.

RAHUL'S POSERS

- Why is it that the CJI was removed from the selection panel for (appointing) the election commissioners?
- Why was a law put in place that allows the Election Commission to destroy CCTV footage 45 days after the election? What is the need?
- Why, in December 2023, the government granted unprecedented immunity to Election Commissioners?

Lok Sabha Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi speaks on election reforms during the Winter Session of Parliament in New Delhi on Tuesday. PTI

"The biggest...act you can do is 'vote chori'. There is no bigger...act than 'vote chori' because when you destroy the vote, you destroy the fabric of this country. You destroy modern India, you destroy the idea of India. Vote-chori is an...act and those across the aisle (BJP) are doing an...act," he said.

Emphasising that India is a "fabric made up of 1.4 billion people, who are woven together by the vote", he said it is the idea that every person in the country is equal that disturbs those who 'cannot stand the idea' that every single person is equal because they believe in a hierarchy.

He said the 'project' did not end with the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi and it was obvious that capturing all the institutions that had emerged from the vote. "After Gandhiji's assassination, the next step of the project was the wholesale capture of India's institutional framework," he said.

Rahul alleged that they were capturing votes to capture institutions like universities and CBI, ED and the Income Tax Department.

Another capture is related to the institution that "directly controls the elections, that is, the EC. I am not saying without proof. There is adequate proof that the EC is colluding with those in power to shape elections. I want to ask three questions which will make it very clear that the BJP is directing and using the Election Commission to damage India's democracy," he said.

He went on to ask why the Chief Justice of India was removed from the selection panel choosing the Chief Election Commissioner and election commissioners.

Referring to the change in law that no election commissioner could be punished, he said, "No prime minister has done this...Why would the prime minister and home minister give this gift of immunity to the election commissioner?"

'One man, one vote': BJP MPs counter Oppn

AMRITA MADHUKALYA
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Arjun Ram Meghwal

Union Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal led the BJP-NDA MPs in the Lok Sabha during the discussion on electoral reforms, saying that this is not the first time the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise has been undertaken, and that its purpose is to ensure each vote belongs to a single person.

"This is not the first time SIR is being implemented in the country. It has happened before, though perhaps not in recent decades. The basic idea behind SIR is that one vote should belong to just one person. We have adhered to the principle of 'one man, one vote, one value'," Meghwal said.

The debate in the Lok Sabha continued for over six hours on Tuesday and is expected to take place for a few hours on Wednesday. Union Home Minister Amit Shah will deliver the reply at the end of the debate.

Meghwal said that while Rahul Gandhi carries the Constitution, he does not read it. "The Supreme Court has upheld the SIR process in Bihar and said that the Election Commission has the legal authority to undertake the exercise, which will clean up the voters' list," he added.

Outspoken MP Nishikant Dubey said that EVMs were introduced by Rajiv Gandhi, and declared that he is proud to be associated with the RSS. Dubey was responding to Rahul's charge that the RSS was capturing institutions.

"Several opposition leaders have spoken about EVMs, but I want to tell the House that they were first introduced by former prime minister Rajiv Gandhi, who brought them as part of a pilot project in 1987. In 1991, the Narasimha Rao government introduced EVMs for voting," Dubey said.

Firing a salvo, Dubey alleged that Indira Gandhi had won an election through 'vote chori'. "The Congress has tarnished the Constitution... Indira Gandhi won Raebareli by vote chori," Dubey said.

'VOTE CHORI'

- Meghwal says Rahul carries the Constitution but does not read it
- Dubey counters Oppn, says EVMs introduced by Rajiv Gandhi
- Dubey alleges Indira Gandhi won Raebareli by 'vote chori'
- Jaiswal accuses Congress of vote theft

Sharjeel Imam denies role in 2020 Delhi riots, seeks bail

NEW DELHI, PTI: Activist Sharjeel Imam on Tuesday urged the Supreme Court to grant him bail in a February 2020 Delhi riots case, saying he had neither participated nor had any role in the violence and was incarcerated for almost six years as an undertrial.

Sharjeel's counsel told a bench of Justices Aravind Kumar and N V Anjaria that the only thing the prosecution has placed before the apex court against the activist is the alleged "inflammatory speeches" given by him.

Senior advocate Siddhartha Dave, appearing for Sharjeel, said some of the words used in the speeches were "unpalatable". "Is a speech by itself conspiratorial in nature? Does it? And it is not a speech which is only one way. I have shown to your lordships, he gives a call for non-violence. He says you take the beating, don't attack. That is what he is saying," Dave told the bench. Besides Dave, senior advocates Salman Khurshid, Sidharth Luthra and others also advanced their submissions on behalf of other accused.

SIR row: Can EC probe 'doubtful citizens'? Supreme Court seeks clarity

Exercise suffers from jurisdictional overreach: Petitions

NEW DELHI, PTI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday asked whether the Election Commission is barred from conducting an inquiry in case of a doubtful citizen and if an inquisitorial process falls outside its constitutional power.

The observations were made by a bench comprising Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi during final hearings on a batch of petitions challenging the Election Commission's decision to undertake a special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls across several states, including Bihar.

During the hearing, Justice Bagchi took note of the relevant law and the vehement submissions that the citizenship issue cannot be decided by the poll panel, which has to consider that a person is an Indian citizen and is of the age of 18 years and more and residing ordinarily in a constituency.

West Bengal Chief Electoral Officer Manoj Kumar Agarwal interacts with marginalised electors at a camp for the Special Intensive Revision of Electoral Rolls-2026, in Sonagachi, Kolkata, on Tuesday. PTI

It was also vehemently argued that the citizenship issue cannot be decided by the EC, as the central government-appointed Foreigners' Tribunal can only decide.

"You say that the EC has no power to declare a person a foreigner or a non-citizen. But, it can doubt the status and refer the issue to the appropriate authorities. And the fact that it can doubt (the citizenship), inverts into itself the power to make an imposition of ensuring that... Can't the ECI decide the presumptive stage of the citizenship?" the judge asked.

The petitioners argued that the revision exercise suffers from jurisdictional overreach, procedural irregularity, and an unconstitutional shifting of the burden of proving citizenship onto ordinary voters.

It heard detailed submissions from senior advocates Shadan Farasat, P C Sen, and other counsel representing multiple petitioners opposing SIR.

Farasat submitted that adult suffrage under Article 326 requires satisfaction of only three conditions, and they are Indian citizenship, attainment of 18 years of age, and absence of specific disqualifications.

The RP Acts mirror these grounds but cannot create new grounds for exclusions from the electoral rolls.

"The EC has no jurisdiction to prevent me from being on the roll or to knock me out of the roll," Farasat said, adding, "If the EC doubts my citizenship, that enquiry must lead only to a reference to the district magistrate. The determination can be made only by the central government or a Foreigners Tribunal."

"There is a difference between determination and inquiry. Can the ECI do an inquiry in case of doubtful citizens? The ECI is not saying that they have the right to declare someone as a non-citizen... but will it be beyond the jurisdiction of ECI, keeping in view its Constitutional power to do a process which is inquisitorial in nature?" the bench asked.

The bench will continue hearing the remaining petitioners on December 11.

India in 'reform express' phase: PM Modi

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday said the country has entered the 'reform express' phase.

While addressing the NDA parliamentary party meet, the PM asked the MPs to shift focus to West Bengal elections as well as the upcoming Budget. PM Modi said the NDA's 'impressive' victory in Bihar was possible due to the alliance's unity.

He also praised Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and called him the 'real architect of Bihar's victory'.

Speaking on the West Bengal elections, Modi asked the MPs to work towards it. "After Bihar, it is Bengal's turn. Just as the Ganga flows through Bihar to Bengal, the series of victories must reach Bengal," Modi said.

Modi also stressed on 'people-centric' initiatives of the BJP and said it is part of the government's 'Reform Express' initiatives.

He said that the reforms are aimed at making the lives of people easy and the days of 30-40 pages of paperwork is over.

He also asked the MPs to provide feedback on the upcoming Budget.

Kharge counters Shah on Vande Mataram 'appeasement' charge

KALYAN RAY & AMRITA MADHUKALYA
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Countering Home Minister Amit Shah's allegations that the politics of appeasement started when the Congress dropped parts of the national song Vande Mataram, party president Mallikarjun Kharge, on Tuesday, said the decision was collectively taken by stalwarts like Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore, Mahatma Gandhi and Subhash Chandra Bose.

Initiating the debate in the Rajya Sabha, Shah said, "The policy of appeasement started by breaking Vande Mataram. Had it not happened, the country would not have been divided."

Kharge said the true homage to Bharat Mata would only be paid when the Parliament would discuss the issues of common people, but the prime minister was holding the Vande Mataram debate, keeping the West Bengal elections in mind.

Mounting an attack on the Nehru-Gandhi family, Shah said, "In Vadne Mataram's 50th year, Nehru cut the song in two. In its 100th year, India was in the Emergency period. Those who wanted to sing Vande Mataram were jailed by Indira ji."

In his response, Kharge said Gurudev's proposal was endorsed by Mahatma Gandhi, Subhash Bose, Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Govind Ballav Pant, Rajendra Prasad, Acharya JB Kripalani, and Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, among others.

"You can't tarnish Nehru ji's image. He was a global leader. You would not reach such a height," he said, referring to Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Responding to Priyanka Gandhi's charge that the BJP was holding the discussion only because of the Bengal polls, Shah said the national song was not linked to Bengal alone. "Some people feel Vande Mataram is being discussed because Bengal polls are approaching. They want to reduce it's glory by linking it with elections," the home minister said.

Row in T'gana after BJP workers held for anti-CM posters

S N V SUDHIR
HYDERABAD, DHNS

A political row has erupted in Telangana after police arrested BJP social media convenor Sumiran Komarraju and others for posters criticising CM-Revanth Reddy.

The BJP has condemned the move as arbitrary and aimed at silencing dissent. It accused the Congress government of misusing the police and drifting toward an 'emergency-style' rule.

The posters were pasted outside the Congress's headquarters in Hyderabad.

Along with Kommaraju, state core committee member Ajay and party leader Tatipamula Sai Kiran Goud, were also arrested.

The posters titled 'Two-year progress report of Congress CM Revanth Reddy' depicted the CM seated on a chair with multiple robotic arms. Each arm was seen holding pieces of paper on which allegations such as secret deal with KCR/KTR, brothers controlling real estate, monthly hafta to Delhi, temple demolitions, 25% commission on everything and free hand to rowdies were written.

According to police, a GHMC employee lodged a complaint on December 6, following which the BJP leaders were summoned to the police station and served notices.

Union Coal Minister G Kishan Reddy criticised the arrests, calling it a blow to free speech. "How will such arbitrary arrests boost investor confidence? Will global investors not hesitate, thinking the state is run by an intolerant and errant regime?" he said in a social media post.

BJP chief spokesperson N V Subhash also criticised the action, describing it as an attempt to stifle opposition voices.

G KISHAN REDDY
Union Coal Minister

"On one hand, the Telangana Government is conducting a Global Investment Summit, supposedly showcasing Hyderabad to global investors as an attractive investment destination with predictable policy, fair regulation, and rule of law. On the other hand, Revanth Reddy Govt. arrests the Social Media Convenor of the BJP Telangana in the middle of the night for a poster that, in fact, quite accurately highlighted the failures of the government.

Goa razes illegal nightclub; Interpol issues notice

PANAJI/NEW DELHI, PTI: THE GOA TOURIsm Department on Tuesday demolished 'Romeo Lane', a beach shack illegally constructed at Vagator by the fugitive owners of the fire-ravaged nightclub at Arpora.

The demolition of the shack came as Interpol issued a Blue Corner Notice, meant to gather information about the accused, against Saurabh and Gaurav Luthra, officials said.

The Goa Chief Minister's office said an Interpol Blue Corner Notice, meant to gather information about the accused, has been issued against the Luthras.

Goa Police have also issued a Look Out Circular (LOC) against another owner, UK citizen Surinder Kumar Khosla.

The Luthra brothers, who fled after the Birch by Romeo Lane fire claimed 25 lives on Saturday night, had erected the shack on Tourism Department land, a senior official said.

Acting on Chief Minister Pramod Sawant's orders, the department razed the wooden structure using machines and reclaimed the 198 sq m plot.

The government has also appointed a fire-safety audit panel for tourist establishments.

The demolition was carried out within two hours.

The Goa police on Tuesday detained Ajay Gupta, one of the four owners of 'Birch by Romeo Lane' nightclub, from the national capital.

He will soon be placed under arrest after the completion of formalities to bring him to Goa, the official said.

As the investigation exposed multiple violations at the nightclub, original landowner Pradeep Ghadi Amonkar said he had fought a 20-year legal battle against Khosla over persistent illegalities.

Amonkar said he bought two Arpora plots in 1994 and signed a sale agreement with Khosla in 2004, but withdrew it after the latter failed to pay. Khosla later set up a nightclub on the land, which was subsequently taken over by the Luthras, he said.

The Arpora-Nagoa panchayat issued a demolition notice to Khosla in 2024, which he challenged and got stayed. "I have been fighting for 20 years against Khosla, who has been involved in all kinds of illegalities on my land," Amonkar said.

The state authorities, on the other hand, have blamed the local panchayat for allowing the illegalities to continue.

The police have so far arrested five persons - nightclub's chief general manager Rajiv Modak, general manager Vivek Singh, bar manager Rajiv Singhania, gate manager Riyanshu Thakur and employee Bharat Kohli.

Kazakh dancer performed without business visa

Kazakh national Kristina, who was dancing at the 'Birch by Romeo Lane' nightclub when a massive blaze erupted and claimed 25 lives, didn't have the business visa to perform in India, police said on Tuesday.

A video was earlier circulated on social media showing the bursting of electric firecrackers and the blaze appearing from the roof of the nightclub. It shows Kristina, who was performing belly dance, and band members, rushing out in panic as the fire spread rapidly.

A senior police officer at the Foreigners Regional Registration Office said that Kristina, originally from Kazakhstan, had applied for a business visa, but it is not sanctioned yet.

Belgium SC rejects Choksi's appeal against extradition

NEW DELHI, PTI: Belgium's supreme court — the Court of Cassation — on Tuesday rejected the appeal of fugitive diamond trader Mehul Choksi challenging the extradition request of India in connection with the Rs 13,000-crore alleged bank fraud in Punjab National Bank, authorities in that country said.

Mehul Choksi

Choksi, who escaped to Antigua and Barbuda in January 2018, days before the scam was detected, was spotted in Belgium, where he had purportedly sought treatment. India had sent an extradition request to Belgium on August 27, 2024, based on arrest warrants issued by a special court in Mumbai.

Responding to PTI, Spokesperson for Court of Cassation, Advocaat-generaal Henri Vanderlinden, said, "The Court of Cassation rejected the appeal. So, the decision of the Court of Appeal stands."

The process of his extradition will begin now, officials said.

The Antwerp Court of Appeal had upheld India's request for Choksi's extradition while terming it "enforceable".

A four-member indictment chamber at the Court of Appeals in Antwerp did not find any infirmity in the orders issued by the pre-trial chamber of the district court on November 29, 2024, terming the arrest warrants issued by the Mumbai special court in May 2018 and June 2021 as "enforceable", allowing Choksi's extradition.

The Court of Appeals had ruled that Choksi, the main accused in a Rs-13,000 crore PNB scam, faces "no risk" of being denied a fair trial or subjected to ill-treatment if he is extradited to India.

The Court of Cassation only checks the decision of the court of appeal "on legal aspects" such as whether the court of appeal correctly applied the legal dispositions, and whether they follow the right procedure, Vanderlinden had said in response to PTI questions last month.

"So, new facts or evidence cannot be placed," he had said.

"The proceedings are, in essence, a written one. As a rule, all cases are heard. If the court refuses to admit the appeal, it will be on legal grounds, for example, the person who filed the complaint did not have the legal competence to do so," Vanderlinden had explained.

'Dictatorship': Kejriwal on Guj denying meet with jailed ryots

AHMEDABAD, DHNS: AAP national convenor Arvind Kejriwal on Tuesday slammed the Patel-led BJP government for denying him permission to meet jailed farmers and party supporters detained after a violent confrontation with the police during the Kisan Mahapanchayat in Botad district on October 12.

On a three-day Gujarat visit, Kejriwal said that he had sought permission to visit Rajkot jail to meet farmers and party workers, but was denied permission. He termed the denial of the permission as "deliberate" and a "blatant display of dictatorship by the Gujarat BJP government."

"What could be more dictatorial than this? Am I a terrorist?" he said while speaking to the media. He addressed cadre after landing in Rajkot on Sunday. He also met the relatives of party workers and residents of Hadadad village in Botad who have been booked following the violence on charges of attempt to murder, rioting, among others. He claimed that farmers' agitation in Hadadad will turn into a "BJP Quit Gujarat" movement.

Govt: Zero tolerance on flight disruptions

Says IndiGo flight services stabilising swiftly

SHEMIN JOY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

No airline, however large, will be permitted to cause hardship to passengers through planning failures or non-compliance with statutory provisions, Civil Aviation Minister K Ram Mohan Naidu told the Lok Sabha on Tuesday, as he emphasised that IndiGo's operational disruptions are "stabilising swiftly".

Amid the Opposition accusing the government of creating a duopoly in the civil aviation sector, Naidu insisted that the government is determined to build a more robust and competitive aviation ecosystem while encouraging more new airlines to operate in India, "ensuring fair access to airport capacity and eliminating any possibility of duopoly in our skies".

Increased competition will lead to "more choice, more affordability and more resilience" for passengers, he said.

Not satisfied with his brief statement, the Opposition walked out of the House shouting slogans against the government. The minister, however, noted that IndiGo's daily flights, which had dropped sharply to 706 on December 5, have now recovered to more than 1,800 flights as of Monday, while all other airlines are operating normally.

"Operations are stabilising fast, safety remains fully enforced, IndiGo is being held accountable, and passengers' dignity and convenience are being protected. The government will remain fully vigilant until complete normalcy is restored and will ensure that every passenger travels safely, comfortably and with the respect they deserve," he said.

K RAM MOHAN NAIDU
Civil Aviation Minister

"Depending on the outcome, strict and appropriate action, empowered under the Aircraft Act and Rules, will be taken. No airline, however large, will be permitted to cause such hardship to passengers through planning failures or non-compliance

Emphasising that safety in civil aviation is "completely non-negotiable", he said the revised Flight Duty Time Limitations (FDTL) norms, scientifically designed, were aimed at preventing pilot fatigue and were implemented in phases on July 1 and November 1.

"IndiGo had assured full compliance with these norms and confirmed preparedness for the winter schedule. Despite these assurances, it was prima facie observed that internal rostering disruptions led to large-scale cancellations, inconveniencing thousands of passengers," he said.

Naidu said the DGCA has constituted a probe and issued show-cause notices to IndiGo's CEO Pieter Elbers and Chief Operating Officer Isidre Porqueras, while directing the airline to restructure operations, increase reserve crew, improve passenger handling and restore schedules promptly.

"Depending on the outcome, strict and appropriate action, empowered under the Aircraft Act and Rules, will be taken. No airline, however large, will be permitted to cause such hardship to passengers through planning failures or non-compliance."

NIA arrests Baramulla doctor as Delhi blast probe widens

Agency says Bilal provided logistical support to suicide bomber, helped in destroying proof

ZULFIKAR MAJID
SRINAGAR, DHNS

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Tuesday arrested Dr Bilal Naseer Malla of Baramulla in north Kashmir, the eighth person taken into custody in the fast-expanding probe into the November 10 explosion near Delhi's Red Fort.

According to the anti-terror probe agency, Bilal had "knowingly harboured" suicide bomber Dr Umar un Nabi, provided him logistical support and later helped destroy evidence linked to the attack.

Investigators say the blast, triggered near the Lal Qila Metro Station, was caused by an IED fitted inside a vehicle. Forensic teams later found components of a sophisticated triggering mechanism concealed inside footwear — a detail that has raised alarm within the security establishment because of its technical precision. DNA profiling was used to identify Umar un Nabi as the attacker.

As the investigation widened, the NIA uncovered an unusually diverse module involving medical professionals and youth with access to drone components and chemical supplies. Among the most prominent earlier arrests was Adeel Ahmed Rather, a doctor from Anantnag, alleged to be part of what investigators describe as a "white-collar logistics ring" that facilitated weapons storage and provided safe spaces for operatives.

Security personnel conduct searches in the Hutmurah forest area as part of the ongoing investigation linked to the Delhi blast case, in Anantnag district, on Tuesday. PTI

An AK-47 assault rifle recovered from a locker linked to him and his digital footprint reportedly placed him in contact with other core conspirators shortly before the blast.

Another key link in the network is Jasir Bilal Wani, accused of providing technical support to the group. According to investigators, Wani experimented with drones, attempted to assemble crude rocket systems and helped modify electronic components that could be repurposed for triggering devices.

He was taken by NIA teams to forested areas of Anantnag earlier in the day, along with Dr Adeel, to identify suspected hideouts and test sites where the module may have conducted pre-blast trials.

Several raids have been carried out in south Kashmir districts and in Faridabad as the agency tries to map the full operational chain — from procurement of the vehicle used in the bombing to the supply of chemicals and the construction of the triggering device.

With Dr Bilal's arrest on Tuesday, the number of detained suspects in the case has risen to eight. The agency said the investigation remains active and "more arrests cannot be ruled out" as forensic and digital evidence continues to be analysed.

EIGHTH SUSPECT

- Dr Bilal Naseer Malla is the 8th person in custody in connection with the Red Fort blast
- Accused of harbouring bomber Dr Umar un Nabi, providing logistics and destroying evidence
- Dr Adeel Ahmed Rather held earlier, linked to weapons storage and safe houses
- NIA says investigation active and further arrests possible

Congress Parliamentary Party chairperson Sonia Gandhi celebrates her birthday with MPs at the CPP Office, Parliament House, in New Delhi on Tuesday. PTI

Court notice to Sonia Gandhi over 'voter fraud'

NEW DELHI, PTI: A Delhi court on Tuesday sought a response from senior Congress leader Sonia Gandhi and the police on a plea challenging a magistrate's order refusing a probe on the allegation that she was included in the electoral rolls three years before acquiring Indian citizenship in 1983.

Special Judge Vishal Gogne was hearing a revision plea against the magisterial court's order of September 11, which had dismissed the plea, saying the complaint was "fashioned with the object of clothing the court with jurisdiction through allegations which are legally untenable, deficient in substance, and beyond the scope of this forum's authority".

Issuing notice to Gandhi and Delhi Police, Judge Gogne posted the matter on January 6 for further proceedings.

The revision plea was filed by advocate Vikas Tripathi, vice president of the Central Delhi Court Bar Association of the Rouse Avenue courts.

Tripathi's counsel, senior advocate Pavan Narang, had alleged before the magisterial court that in January 1980, Gandhi's name was added as a voter of the New Delhi constituency when she was not an Indian citizen.

He had claimed "some forgery" and a public authority being "cheated".

The magistrate, however, had dismissed the plea seeking a probe by holding that the complainant sought to set the criminal law in motion by persuading the court to assume jurisdiction, which did not vest in it legally.

He had observed "mere bald assertions, unaccompanied by the essential particulars required to attract the statutory elements of cheating or forgery" cannot substitute a legally sustainable accusation.

The plea, the magistrate had said, was merely relying upon an extract of the electoral roll, which was "a photocopy of a photocopy of an alleged extract of an uncertified electoral roll" of 1980.

Deprecating the complaint, the magistrate had said, "Such a course, in substance, amounts to a misuse of the process of law by projecting a civil or ordinary dispute in the garb of criminality."

Three decades on, J&K cops arrest two separatist leaders

SRINAGAR, DHNS

Jammu and Kashmir Police on Tuesday arrested former militant commander-turned-separatist leader Javed Ahmad Mir alias Javed Nalka and another separatist leader Shakeel Bakshi in connection with a nearly three-decade-old militancy-linked case registered at Shergari Police Station in Srinagar.

Mir and Bakshi were taken into custody for their alleged role in a violent procession on July 17, 1996.

According to case records, Mir and other separatist leaders were accused of leading a large funeral march carrying the body of militant Hilal Ahmad Beigh. The procession allegedly escalated into a clash with police, involving rioting and anti-India sloganeering, leaving several personnel injured and causing damage to property.

The FIR had named several prominent separatist figures, including Syed Ali Shah Geelani, Abdul Gani Lone, Mohammad Yaqoob Vakeel, Nayeem Khan, Shabir Shah, Bakshi and Mir. While Geelani, Lone and Vakeel have since passed away, Khan and Shah are lodged in Tihar Jail. Bakshi and Mir were arrested on Tuesday.

Mir joined the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF) in the late 1980s and was part of the organisation's early militant leadership along with Yasin Malik and others. Security operations in the early 1990s eliminated senior JKLF commanders, but Mir evaded arrest.

Mir is also an accused in the January 25, 1990, attack in Rawalpora, Srinagar, in which four Indian Air Force (IAF) personnel were killed. He was arrested by the CBI on a non-bailable warrant for failing to appear before the court, but was granted bail the same day.

The JKLF was banned under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act in 2019.

Deepam row: Judge summons CS, ADGP in contempt case

CHENNAI, DHNS: Hearing a contempt petition regarding noncompliance of his order over lighting of Karthigai Deepam at the Thiruparankundram hills, Justice G R Swaminathan of the Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court on Tuesday directed the Chief Secretary and Additional Director General of Police (L&O) to appear before him on December 17.

Justice Swaminathan also issued a statutory notice A G Inigo Divyan, Deputy Commissioner of Police (Madurai South), for stopping the petitioners from enforcing the orders of lighting the lamp on the Deepathoon on December 4.

Justice Swaminathan, at the request of the petitioners, also impleaded the Union Home Secretary in the case and issued notice to him.

Third judicial impeachment notice this year: MPs move against Madras HC judge

NEW DELHI, DHNS: I.N.D.I.A bloc MPs on Tuesday submitted a notice to impeach Justice G R Swaminathan of the Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court, who delivered a judgment directing that the Karthigai Deepam should be lit atop the Thiruparankundram hills near a dargah.

They alleged that his conduct raises "serious questions" regarding impartiality, transparency and the secular functioning of the judiciary.

The MPs, including DMK's Kanimozhi and T R Baalu and Congress' Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, submitted the notice to Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla along with copies of letters signed by both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha members addressed to President Droupadi Murmu and Chief Justice of India Surya Kant.

This is the third impeachment notice against a judge in the past year. While a decision on the notice against Justice Shekhar Yadav is pending, the one concerning Justice Yashwant Varma was admitted and a three-member panel has been constituted to investigate the charges.

The notice, signed by 107 Lok Sabha MPs including Priyanka, Kanimozhi, Supriya Sule, Akhilesh and Asaduddin Owaisi, claimed that the conduct of Justice Swaminathan raised "serious questions" regarding impartiality, transparency and the secular functioning of the judiciary. MPs from around a dozen parties have supported the notice.

It also alleged that Justice Swaminathan showed "undue favouritism" to a particular senior advocate in deciding cases, while also favouring lawyers from a particular community. He is further accused of deciding cases on the basis of a particular political ideology and in a manner contrary to the secular principles of the Indian Constitution.

Justice Swaminathan had on December 1 ordered that the Karthigai Deepam must be lit on the Deepathoon atop the hills near the dargah.

However, HR&CE officials lit the lamp at the Uchipillaiyar temple at 6 pm as per tradition on December 3, inviting possible contempt of court proceedings. Justice Swaminathan pulled up the DMK government for breaching his order.

JUDGMENT ROW

- MPs allege his conduct raises "serious questions" regarding impartiality, transparency and secular functioning of judiciary
- Accused of deciding cases on the basis of a particular political ideology & in manner contrary to the secular principles of the Constitution
- Notice signed by 107 Lok Sabha MPs from around a dozen parties

70% turnout in Kerala polls

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, DHNS: A record voter turnout of over 70% was recorded in the first phase of polling of the Kerala local body elections on Tuesday.

Polling was held in 11,168 wards of 595 local bodies in seven districts, from Thiruvananthapuram in the south to Ernakulam (Kochi) in central Kerala.

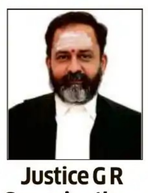
The polling went off peacefully, except for minor tensions in some areas, including Thiruvananthapuram Corporation.

Justice Swaminathan: Quoting films, courting rows

E T B SIVAPRIYAN
CHENNAI, DHNS

Justice G R Swaminathan, against whom the Opposition I.N.D.I.A alliance submitted an impeachment petition on Tuesday, hails from Tamil Nadu's Thiruvarur in the Cauvery Delta region.

He enrolled as an advocate in 1991, began practising independently in Puducherry in 1997, and shifted to Madurai in 2004 when a bench of the Madras High Court was established there.



Justice G R Swaminathan

Justice Swaminathan, who was appointed Assistant Solicitor General in the Madurai Bench in 2014, has been vocal about his association with Hindu Munnani, an outfit that claims to espouse the cause of Hindus in Tamil Nadu. Three years later, he was elevated as an additional judge in the Madurai bench and later made permanent.

The judge, known for his outspoken nature and for quoting films in his judgments, drew criticism in 2022 when he sentenced YouTuber and whistleblower 'Savukku' Shankar to jail on charges of contempt of court.

He also issued a contempt warning to advocate S Vanchinathan of Madurai over a complaint to the Chief Justice of India alleging caste bias and ideological misconduct.

Justice Swaminathan has authored several landmark judgments and even released a self-appraisal card.

His ruling banning unnecessary medical interventions on intersex infants and children in Tamil Nadu was widely lauded, along with other decisions.

However, in his speech at the 17th Annual Talent Parade of Vedic Scholars in July this year, he said that a court verdict had brought him the realisation that the protectors of the Vedas would guard them.

Opposition parties, including the DMK, have criticised the judge on several occasions.

AUCTION NOTICE

This is to inform public in general that Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd has organized an auction in below mention respect of vehicles.

1) ASHOK LEYLAND LIMITED - AL 3118 YOM – 2018 Reg No – KA564067
2) AL_DOST_GOODS YOM – 2024 Reg No – KA33B6516
3) CB_AL_BADA_DOST YOM – - Reg No – KA35D8792
4) CB_Ashok Leyland Dost GOODS YOM – 2023 Reg No – KA38A5446
5) CB_ TATA INTRA V30 _COMMERCIAL VEHICLE YOM – 2024 Reg No – KA25AC0216
6) CB_SAMRAT_4760_GS _CAB_CHASSIS YOM – 2024 Reg No – KA41D9838
7) CB_EICHER_PRO_2110_ E_BS_6_CAB_CHASSIS YOM – - Reg No – KA53AB6270

UNDER HYPOTHECATION WITH M/S KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK IS UNDER SALE IN ITS "AS IS WHERE IS CONDITION"

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN GIVE THEIR QUOTATIONS (ONLINE/OFFLINE) WITHIN 15 DAYS FROM THIS PAPER PUBLICATION i.e. from 10.12.2025

(Please note that closing Auction date would not be a Weekly off / Holiday)

BRANCH ADDRESS:
KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK LTD.,
22, MG ROAD, BANGALORE
KARNATAKA – 560001
OR
Contact: Arunlaxman Kokare
Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd.
Contact / 080 - 61564249

KARNATAKA STATE FINANCIAL CORPORATION
(Established under the State Financial Corporation's Act 1951)
CENTRAL BRANCH OFFICE: Ground Floor, KSFC Bhavana, No.1/1, Thimmaiah Road, Near Cantonment Railway Station, Bengaluru-560052.
Ph: 080-22265881, E-mail: central.ksfc@karnataka.gov.in

SALE OF ASSET THROUGH E-AUCTION UNDER SARFAESI ACT

Notice is hereby given to the effect that the immovable property described herein have been taken possession under the provisions of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Asset & Enforcement of Security Interest Act. 2002 (SARFAESI) in exercise of the powers conferred U/s. 13(4) read with Rule No. 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 will be sold through e-auction on 'AS IS WHERE IS BASIS'. Persons interested for purchase of the following assets may participate in the bid through e-Auction.

1) Name of the unit: J H Metal

Description of the property: All that piece and parcel of the vacant Residential Property bearing Site No. 259, Khata No. 1730/146/259 the said site is carved out of Sy. No. 146, E-Khata Property No. 150200203101020056, formed at "Woods Regency Huttanahalli Village, Jala Hobli, Bengaluru, Measuring East to West 40' and North to South 30 in all measuring 1200 Sqft., and bounded on: East By: Site No. 261, West By: Road, North By Site No. 260 and South By : Site No. 258, in the name of Madan Kumar H

Public inspection Date: **16.12.2025** from **11.30 a.m.** to **1.30p.m.**

Reserve Price: **Rs. 32.40 Lakhs.** EMD: **Rs. 03.24 Lakhs.**

(1) E-auction will commence from **13.01.2026** at **11 a.m.** and closes on **17.01.2026** at **04.00 p.m.** (2) Last date for payment. of EMD and to obtain bid key is **12.01.2026** up to **4.00 p.m**

Terms and Conditions: 1) The sale is through e-auction and as detailed in website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** interested persons are advised to visit the aforesaid website. 2) This is also a 30 days statutory notice for sale of secured assets to the borrowers / Owners Further they are also informed to mobilise prospective buyers interested in buying the above property by participating in the e-auction to safeguard their interest. 3) For more details on e-procurement helpdesk No. **080-46010000 & 080-68948777** at e-procurement cell, 4th floor, Sri Arvind Bhavan, Mythic Society Compound, Nrupathunga Road, Bangalore-560 001. 4) All statutory dues and other dues/taxes payable to local authorities/State BESCOM/development charges/GST if any are payable by the purchaser.

Date: 10.12.2025 **Sd/-**
Place: Bengaluru **Deputy General Manager**

RAIL WHEEL FACTORY
Yelahanka, Bangalore - 560 064
website: www.rwf.indianrailways.gov.in

E - TENDER: On behalf of the President of India, the Principal Chief Mechanical Engineer invites electronic tender for the following work online through the website http://www.ireps.gov.in (Works)

E - TENDER NOTICE No: RWF/M/OT/AMS/2025-26/63 dtd. 04/12/2025
Tender No: RWF/M/OT/AMS/2025-26/63 **Name of the work:** Outsourcing the work of Rough Turning/Semi finishing of 1500 numbers of EMU TC axles **Estimated Cost:** Rs. 1,68,15,000 **EMD Rs.** 2,34,100

E - TENDER NOTICE No: RWF/M/OT/AMS/2025-26/64 dtd. 04/12/2025
Tender No: RWF/M/OT/AMS/2025-26/64 **Name of the work:** Outsourcing work of Rough Turning / Semi-Finishing of 3,000 numbers of 25T Axles **Estimated Cost:** Rs. 3,36,30,000 **EMD Rs.** 3,18,200

E - TENDER NOTICE No: RWF/M/OT/AMS/2025-26/65 dtd. 04/12/2025
Tender No: RWF/M/OT/AMS/2025-26/65 **Name of the work:** Outsourcing work of Rough Turning / Semi-Finishing of 3,000 numbers of Box N Axles **Estimated Cost:** Rs. 3,36,30,000 **EMD** Rs. 3,18,200
Date &Time of Closing of Tenders : 26/12/2025 at 10.30 Hrs
Completion Period : 12 Months
These tender notices along with eligibility criteria can be viewed on our website www.rwf.indianrailways.gov.in

DY. CME/AP

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ, ಇಲಾಖೆ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮಂಡ್ಯ
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್‌ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಮಂಡ್ಯ
ಸಂ: 11/2025–2026 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 10–12–2025

ಮಂಡ್ಯ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಮಂಡ್ಯ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ
ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಐಟಂವಾರು ದರದ ಟೆಂಡರುಗಳ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ **KW-1 & 2** ರ ರೀತಿ ದ್ವಿಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಾಗಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದು.

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲಾತಿಗಳನ್ನು ದಿನಾಂಕ **10.12.2025** ರಿಂದ ಇ–ಪೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ವಿಚಾರಣೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ **30.12.2025** ಸಂಜೆ **4.00** ಘಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ, ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ **31.12.2025** ಸಂಜೆ **4.30** ಘಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ, ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ **01.01.2026** ಸಂಜೆ **4.31** ಘಂಟೆ ನಂತರ ಅಥವಾ ನಂತರದ ಕೆಲಸದ ದಿನಗಳು, ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ **02.01.2026** ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ **11.00**ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ಅಥವಾ ನಂತರದ ಕೆಲಸದ ದಿನಗಳು. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆ ಬೆಲೆ ಇ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ರಂತೆ. ಕಾಲಮಿತಿ: ಮಳೆಗಾಲ ಸೇರಿ **2/3** ತಿಂಗಳು ಒಟ್ಟು **110** (ಒಂದು ನೂರ ಹತ್ತು) ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಪೈಕಿ ಗರಿಷ್ಠ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.**41.00** ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು ಕನಿಷ್ಠ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.**2.00** ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ಬೆಲೆ ಇ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ರಂತೆ, ಕೆಲಸಗಳ ವಿವರ, ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ, ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ., ಮೊತ್ತ ಮುಂತಾದ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಸದರಿ ಕಛೇರಿಯಿಂದ ಕಛೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು.

ಟಿಪ್ಪಣಿ:
1. ಈ ಕೆಳಗೆ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿರುವವರು ಯಾವುದೇ ಕಾರಣಗಳನ್ನು ನೀಡದೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯ ಮುಂದೂಡುವಿಕೆ /ಸಂಪೂರ್ಣವಾಗಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ರದ್ದುಗೊಳಿಸುವ/ಟೆಂಡರ್ ನಿರಾಕರಿಸುವ ಹಕ್ಕನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ.
2. ಇನ್ನು ಮುಂದೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವುದೇ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಗಳು ಇದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನ ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ, ಬದಲಾಗಿ ವಿದ್ಯುನ್ಮಾನ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆ ವೇದಿಕೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್, ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ, ಇಲಾಖೆ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮಂಡ್ಯ

'Publicity stunt': Kuki body criticises Meitei MLA's relief camp visit

Warns such unannounced visits could lead to unwanted confrontations

GUWAHATI, DHNS

Angry over senior Manipur Meitei BJP MLA Yumnam Khemchand Singh's sudden visit to Kuki villages on Monday, Kuki Zo Council (KZC), the apex body of Kuki-Zo organisations, on Tuesday warned that such unannounced visits could lead to "unwanted confrontations."

The organisation, which is engaged in talks with the Centre to find a solution to the conflict involving the Meitei and the Kuki-Zo communities, called Singh's visit an "irresponsible publicity stunt."

"His visit was made without any prior intimation to Kuki-Zo leaders, camp authorities, or the district administration. Reports confirm that he was visiting BJP workers elsewhere and made an impromptu stop at the camp on his way back. He later circulated photos and videos online, projecting himself as a peace-maker in conflict-torn Manipur," said a statement issued by KZC spokesperson, Ginza Vualzong.

Khemchnad, a senior BJP MLA, a former Minister and Speaker of Manipur Assembly on Monday said he visited Litan and Chassad in Ukhrul and Kamjong district, respectively. Both are Naga-dominated districts. Singh called for peace and reconciliation during his visit to two relief camps where displaced Kukis have been taking shelter since the conflict erupted in May 2023.

"Where was Khemchand during May 3–7, 2023 when violence broke out and Kuki-Zo families in and around Imphal were targeted and displaced? What prevented him from speaking then? His silence during the tragedy and sudden concern now do not align," KZC further said.

More than 260 people belonging to both Meitei and the Kukis have died and over 60,000 others have been displaced due to the conflict. Meiteis from the Valley and the Kukis from the hills have been avoiding visits to each other's areas fearing further conflict.

The state has remained under President's Rule since February this year.

"A casual stop during his leisure travel brings no safety, justice, or accountability to the displaced families who continue to suffer. The KZC abhors this insincere act and cautions all individuals against visiting Kuki-Zo areas or relief centres without prior communication to community leaders. With the conflict still ongoing, such unannounced visits can spark misunderstanding or lead to unwanted confrontations," KZC said.

India-US trade deal: Darpan Jain to lead negotiations

Darpan Jain

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Darpan Jain, a Karnataka-cadre IAS officer from the 2001 batch, will be the chief negotiator for India in the upcoming trade talks with the United States.

Currently serving as Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Jain played a key role in several bilateral trade negotiations with several countries.

The talks are scheduled for December 10 and 11 and will focus on a wide range of trade-related issues as both nations work to advance the Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA).

Rajesh Agrawal, who earlier served as the chief negotiator, has since been appointed Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce. As Commerce Secretary, Agrawal will oversee the negotiations. A delegation from the Office of the US Trade Representative, led by Deputy US Trade Representative Ambassador Rick Switzer, is scheduled to visit India.

Both the Indian and US sides are looking forward to making "strong progress" on resolving tariff issues.

The US has imposed a total of 50% tariffs on imports from India — 25% as reciprocal duties and another 25% as a penalty linked to India's imports of Russian oil.

Kerala CM rejects actor's conspiracy claim in rape case

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, DHNS

Pinarayi Vijayan

Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan dismissed actor Dileep's claim that a conspiracy was plotted against him in the 2017 actor abduction and rape case, even as the actor hinted at plans to pursue legal action against those who allegedly framed him.

Following his acquittal on Monday, Dileep accused certain "criminal police" officials and a senior officer of acting against him, after his ex-wife and actor Manju Warrier suggested that there was a conspiracy behind the sexual assault.

Responding to Dileep's charge, CM Vijayan told reporters that investigators had proceeded against him strictly on the basis of evidence.

"It is only his assumption that a conspiracy was hatched against him by the investigating officers. The officers pursued the case purely on evidence," Vijayan said, adding that the government would continue to support the survivor. Meanwhile, Dileep told sections of the media that he would decide on initiating legal action after reviewing the court verdict that acquitted him.

He also claimed that the survivor had not mentioned his name during the initial months of the investigation and that he shared a cordial relationship with her. He said her later allegations against him came under the influence of members of the special investigation team.

Resignation in protest

Dubbing artist Bhagyalekshmi announced her resignation from the Film Employees Federation of Kerala (FEFKA), accusing its leadership of adopting a pro-Dileep stance.

A vocal supporter of the assault survivor, Bhagyalekshmi alleged that leaders of FEFKA and the Association of Malayalam Movie Artists (AMMA) were showing undue haste in reinstating Dileep to the forums.

Couple split over onion, garlic; high court upholds divorce verdict

AHMEDABAD, PTI: A Gujarat-based couple's 23-year-old marriage ended in a divorce over a long-standing dispute that started in the kitchen and was centred around the wife's dietary choice of non-consumption of onion and garlic.

The Gujarat High Court has upheld the divorce verdict of an Ahmedabad family court, capping the long-simmering conflict between the couple over consumption of two of the most common ingredients, onion and garlic.

A division bench of Justices Sangeeta Vishen and Nisha Thakore dismissed the woman's appeal challenging the dissolution of the marriage after she no longer opposed it, as per a HC order dated November 27. The "trigger point" between the couple was the wife not consuming onion and garlic. The wife submitted in her appeal that the issue revolved around her following a particular religion (Swaminarayan sect). Followers of this sect do not eat onions and garlic.

Since the Ahmedabad-based couple got married in 2002, the husband's mother used to cook food separately for the wife, without onion and garlic, while dishes for other family members were prepared with these two ingredients, as per the court order.

"Following the religion and consumption of onion and garlic was the trigger point of the differences between the parties," it noted.

Though the petition in the HC was filed against the family court order of divorce during the hearing, the wife did not object to the dissolution of the marriage. "The wife was not contesting the dissolution of the marriage, but the concern is of the alimony granted by the learned Judge," said the order.

The division bench of Justices Vishen and Thakore upheld the family court's divorce order.

MISCELLANY

◆ COMICS ◆

Blondie

Hey there, girl! You look great today!
HUH?
But are you sure about those shoes? Maybe you should buy new ones today
I DON'T KNOW IF I SHOULD BE UPSET THAT SIRI KNOWS TOO MUCH OR HAPPY THAT WAS SUCH A GOOD IDEA!

Hagar The Horrible

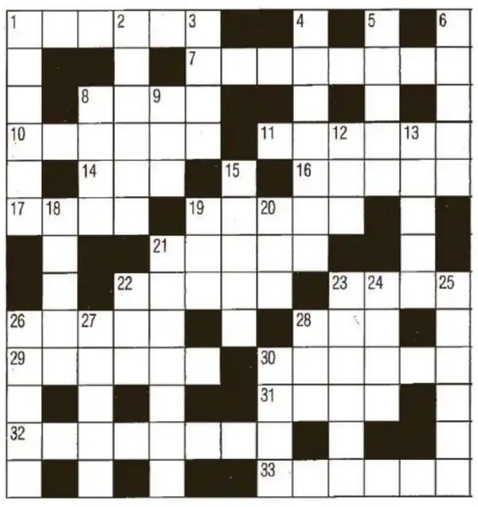
Beetle Bailey

Peanuts

I'M SURE THIS LETTER IS FROM MY BROTHER SPIKE IN NEEDLES...
IT MUST BE IMPORTANT... IT HAS A THIRTEEN CENT STAMP ON IT!
THE NAME ON THE STAMP SAYS CARL SANDBURG...
THAT'S GOTTA BE PANCHO GONZALES!

Marvin

CROSSWORD CHALLENGE 12306



CRYPTIC

ACROSS

1 The pair Cleo possibly holds up (6)
7 Athletic as Bobby or Jack (8)
8 Little girl quiet and attractive (4)
10 Place left between two ducks (6)
11 Fights for mere morsels (6)
14 Green-eyed historic hero? (3)
16 Can she fly a kite? (5)
17 The ship had cast off (4)
19 On good terms, like ship's officers (5)
21 Will not yield, but does go in a bit! (5)
22 Park explorer (5)
23 Cause to become hale? (4)
26 A bit of sabotage afoot (5)
28 Canine contribution to an occurrence (3)
29 Grab a car part (6)
30 Many accept the artist in him (3,3)
31 Chooses a different spot (4)
32 Considered the wild deer at the waterside (8)
33 Emphasise that it can fracture (6)

DOWN

1 Dotty little things going around, that is, in colonies (6)
2 Dad took a rattly ride in partnership (6)
3 Repetitive part of the chorus (4)
4 It's game and chirpy (7)
5 Furry friend can make toast (5)
6 It grows wild in Siena (5)
8 Cheated many an individual (4)
9 Dirty, untidy yet somewhat stylish place? (3)
12 Sunfish? (3)
13 Paint, milky when stirred (5)
15 What a hound may do about a horse being loose (5)
18 Two familiar names for meat (5)
19 Diminutive department of government (3)
20 To love excessively (3)
21 Noted batsman good at cutting (7)
22 French word for a car test (3)
23 Watch this horse! (6)
24 Goes wrong, as one points out with a growl (4)
25 Coverings reapplied in relays (6)
26 There's a policeman in the room (5)
27 Rabbit resembling cake? (5)
28 Do better than raise the pace a bit? (3)
30 Old boys nominally up to date (4)

ACROSS

1 Ballroom dance (3-3)
7 Sweet on a stick (8)
8 Duty list (4)
10 Maltreats (6)
11 Find (6)
14 Insect (3)
16 Elections (5)
17 Direction (4)
19 Cowboy display (5)
21 Dynast (5)
22 Heathen (5)
23 Harsh grating noise (4)
26 Lukewarm (5)
28 That woman (3)
29 Primary source (6)
30 Of the face (6)
31 Among (4)
32 Draws towards (8)
33 Topics (6)

DOWN

1 Invent (6)
2 Small cupboard (6)
3 Unfortunately (4)
4 Finished (3,4)
5 Small fish (5)
6 Secret agents (5)
8 Chafes (4)
9 Golfer's peg (3)
12 Dove's call (3)
13 Rips (5)
15 Of the sun (5)
18 Following in time (5)
19 Floor covering (3)
20 Lair (3)
21 Fundamental (7)
22 Farm animal (3)
23 Cooking instructions (6)
24 Dry (4)
25 Fliers (6)
26 Sum (5)
27 Ski-slope (5)
28 Bad actor (3)
30 Rapid (4)

SOLUTIONS TO CROSSWORD 12305

CRYPTIC

ACROSS: 1, Cr.-ewe 6, Stand 9, And-over 10, Amend 11, Carry 12, Meaty 13, Si-lli-er 15, BA-h 17, Knee 18, M-oral-e 19, Roman 20, Fro-lic 22, Char 24, Fan 25, Po-O-rest 26, Ro-b-in 27, Fives 28, Jam-i.e. 29, Sto-O-ges 30, G-rate 31, Teeth.
DOWN: 2, Remain 3, W-angle 4, End 5, Boxer 6, Section 7, Tray 8, Norma-L 12, Me-doc 13, Ski-ff 14, Lemon 15, Bat-he 16, Heart 18, Mason 19, Riposte 21, RA-pier 22, C-R-ease 23, Assist 25, Pilot 26, Rest 28, Jet.

EASY

ACROSS: 1, Stash 6, Posse 9, Lexicon 10, Mason 11, Slurp 12, Jetty 13, Picador 15, Saw 17, Icon 18, Agenda 19, Terse 20, Editor 22, Five 24, Sin 25, Secular 26, Widen 27, Tunic 28, Movie 29, Saunter 30, Rebel 31, Never.
DOWN: 2, Tragic 3, Slogan 4, Hen 5, Miner 6, Postage 7, Only 8, Spread 12, Joker 13, Piles 14, Colin 15, Snail 16, Wager 18, Ashen 19, Topical 21, Dilute 22, Furore 23, Valise 25, Seine 26, Wise 28, Men.

◆SU-DO-KU-6773◆

3	5		4	7	2			
		2				7		
4								2
		7	8					1
	2		7		6		8	
6					5	4		
7								4
		6				5		
			9	2	4		6	7

hard

SOLUTION TO 6772

3	9	6	4	2	5	8	1	7
4	5	8	7	1	9	2	6	3
1	2	7	3	6	8	5	4	9
2	8	4	6	5	7	9	3	1
5	6	1	2	9	3	4	7	8
9	7	3	8	4	1	6	2	5
7	4	5	9	3	2	1	8	6
8	1	2	5	7	6	3	9	4
6	3	9	1	8	4	7	5	2

To solve the puzzle: To solve a su-do-ku puzzle, every digit from1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows, and in each of the nine boxes.

SCRABBLE™

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N1	P3	I1	T1	T1	S1	R1	RACK 1
R1	R1	S1	E1	U1	U1	U1	RACK 2
I1	D2	L1	A1	T1	C3	E1	3rd Letter Triple — RACK 3
F4	D2	E1	C3	T1	I1	I1	Triple Word Score — RACK 4

PAR SCORE 110-120
by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in the Collins English Dictionary. JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

C3	O1	N1	V4	E1	X8	RACK 1 = 54		
A1	W4	A1	I1	T1	E1	D2	RACK 2 = 65	
G2	A1	M3	B3	I1	S1	T1	RACK 3 = 62	
E1	A1	R1	I1	N1	G2	S1	RACK 4 = 66	

PAR SCORE 160-170 — JUDD'S TOTAL 247

JUMBLE®

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

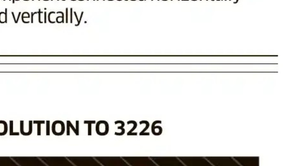
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

BOTIR

UGEAG

ASNESO

TALHHE


Try to get as much of the coastline as you can.
Thanks for doing this.
Not a problem. I've got it all in frame. Smile!
THEY ASKED IF SHE WOULD TAKE A PHOTO OF THEM ON THE BEACH, AND SHE SAID ---

Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Ans. here: " " (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: RELIC OPERA SKETCH MEMORY
Answer: They grew and harvested their own food because they were — PICKY EATERS

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HITORI-3227

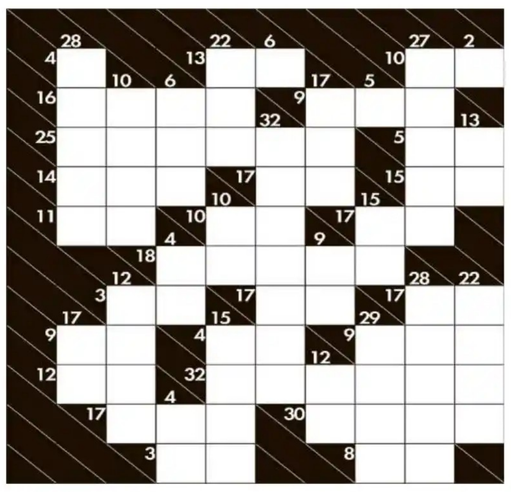
6	2	7	5	3	7	4	8
7	4	1	1	8	5	6	7
2	6	5	4	6	1	8	1
1	1	6	7	4	2	1	4
3	5	1	6	2	4	7	7
8	7	2	7	7	7	1	5
5	6	4	2	1	1	7	7
1	2	7	8	1	7	3	7

SOLUTION TO 3226

■	3	7	4	■	5	6	■
7	4	■	6	2	1	■	5
2	5	3	■	1	■	8	4
5	■	4	3	■	2	■	1
■	7	5	■	8	6	2	3
4	2	■	8	7	■	3	■
6	■	8	■	3	7	4	2
1	8	2	7	6	3	5	■

To solve the puzzle: Eliminate numbers by filling in squares so that remaining cells in that row or column do not repeat that number more than once. Filled-in cells cannot be horizontally or vertically adjacent. The un-filled cells must form a single component connected horizontally and vertically.

KAKURO- 3227



SOLUTION TO 3226

To solve the puzzle: Put a number from 1 through 9 in a cell. No zeros. A number in a cell separated by diagonal line tells the sum of numbers in consecutive cells at its right or downward. No number may appear more than once in consecutive cells.

SU DO KU X - 3761

■			6			9		■
	■						■	
6		■				5	2	
			1	2	■	3	5	7
				4		1		2
			8		■		4	
8	6	■			7	■		
	■	7		8			■	
1		4						■

SOLUTION TO 3760

4	2	3	7	8	1	9	6	5
8	6	9	2	5	3	7	1	4
7	5	1	9	6	4	3	2	8
9	7	6	5	1	8	2	4	3
3	1	4	6	2	9	5	8	7
2	8	5	4	3	7	6	9	1
1	4	7	3	9	2	8	5	6
5	9	8	1	7	6	4	3	2
6	3	2	8	4	5	1	7	9

To solve the puzzle: The objective is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column, each 3x3 box and each shaded diagonal line contains the same number only once.

Australia's social media ban for children takes effect in world first

Ten major platforms ordered to block children or face fine

SYDNEY, REUTERS

Australia has become the first country to ban social media for children under 16, blocking access to platforms including TikTok, Alphabet's YouTube, and Meta's Instagram and Facebook from midnight.

Ten of the biggest platforms were ordered to block children from midnight on Wednesday (1300 GMT on Tuesday) or face fines of up to A$49.5 million (US$33 million) under the new law. The measure drew criticism from major technology companies and free speech advocates but was welcomed by parents and child protection groups.

The ban is being closely watched by other countries considering similar age-based measures amid growing concerns about the impact of social media on children's health and safety.

In a video message that Sky News Australia said would be played in schools this week, Prime Minister Anthony Albanese said the ban aimed to support young Australians and reduce the pressure caused by endless feeds and algorithms.

"Make the most of the school holidays coming up. Rather than spending it scrolling on your phone, start a new sport, learn a new instrument, or read that book that has been sitting there for some time on your shelf," he said.

"And importantly, spend quality time with your friends and your family, face to face."

MIXED REACTIONS

- The ban covers major platforms including TikTok, YouTube, Instagram and Facebook.
- Platforms must block under-16s or face fines of up to A$49.5 million (US$33 million).
- The move receives support from parents and child advocates, but major tech firms and free-speech groups criticise it.

The rollout ends a year of speculation about whether a country could block children from using technology deeply embedded in modern life.

It also marks the beginning of a live experiment likely to be studied globally by lawmakers frustrated with what they say is a tech industry too slow to implement harm-reduction measures.

"While Australia is the first to adopt such restrictions, it is unlikely to be the last," Tama Leaver, a professor of internet studies at Curtin University, said. "Governments around the world are watching how the power of Big Tech was successfully taken on. The social media ban in Australia ... is very much the canary in the coal mine."

Governments from Denmark to Malaysia — and even some states in the US, where platforms are rolling back trust and safety features — say they plan similar steps, four years after a leak of internal Meta documents showed the company knew its products contributed to body image problems among teenagers. Meta has said it has tools in place to protect children.

The ban initially covers 10 platforms, but the government said the list would change as new products emerge and young users switch to alternatives.

Of the initial 10, all but Elon Musk's X have said they will comply using age inference — guessing a person's age from their online activity — or age estimation, which is usually based on a selfie. They may also check uploaded identification documents or linked bank account details.

WORLD AT A GLANCE

A collapsed road in Tohoku in Aomori Prefecture, northeastern Japan, following a strong earthquake that struck the region on Monday night. REUTERS

Hamas threatens not to move forward with Gaza peace deal

A Hamas leader on Tuesday threatened not to move forward into the next phase of the Gaza ceasefire agreement until more pressure is placed on Israel to open up a key border crossing, cease deadly strikes and allow more aid into the Palestinian territory, AP/PTI reports from Jerusalem.

The accusation came as Israel's government says it's ready to move into the next, more complicated phase of the ceasefire deal – even as it has called on the militant group to return the remains of the last Israeli hostage. Husam Badran, a member of Hamas' political wing, called for the "full implementation of all the terms of the first phase" before moving forward, including an end to what he called the continuing demolition of Palestinian homes in the part of the territory still controlled by Israel. Israel's military operations in Gaza have resulted in the deaths of at least 376 Palestinians since the ceasefire took hold on October 10, according to Palestinian health officials.

Brigitte Macron faces backlash

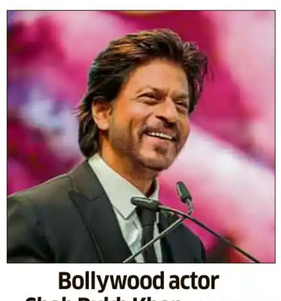
Brigitte Macron was facing criticism on Tuesday after a video emerged of her using a slur to denounce feminist protesters, AP/PTI reports from Paris.

The scene filmed Sunday showed France's first lady in discussion backstage at the Folies Bergere theatre in Paris with Ary Abittan, a French actor and humorist previously accused of rape, before a performance he was about to give. The previous night, feminist campaigners had disrupted his show with shouts of "Abittan, rapist!" Before Sunday's performance, Brigitte Macron asked him how he was feeling. When he said he was feeling scared, she made a derogatory and sexist reference to the women, adding: "We'll toss them out."

2 Pak Hindu women kidnapped

A Pakistani Hindu woman and her minor daughter have been reportedly kidnapped by unknown gunmen in Pakistan's Sindh province, PTI reports from Karachi.

The incident took place on Saturday in the Sindhi Mohalla in Sher Shah, Karachi. According to initial accounts provided by the family, the woman was taken away by three armed individuals who forced her into a white Alto car moments after she stepped out of her home. The case has sparked a wave of fear and concern within the local community.



Bollywood actor Shah Rukh Khan. PTI FILE

Shah Rukh in NYT's most stylish people list

NEW DELHI, PTI: Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan has made it to the list of the 67 Most Stylish People of 2025 released by The New York Times.

Other celebrities on the list include Sabrina Carpenter, Doechii, A$AP Rocky, Vivian Wilson, Nicole Scherzinger, Walton Goggins, Jennifer Lawrence, Shai Gilgeous-Alexander, Cole Escola and Noah Wyle, among others. The 60-year-old actor was recognised for his appearance at the Met Gala earlier this year, where he wore an outfit designed by Sabyasachi Mukherjee.

"Known by his army of fans simply as SRK, Bollywood's biggest star and one of the world's most famous actors brought the Met Gala into his orbit as a first-time guest. He wore a design by Sabyasachi Mukherjee," read the note about the superstar on the list. This was followed by pictures from the event, featuring the actor in bespoke all-black menswear. The look was complemented by a crystal-studded pendant shaped like the letter 'K' in one of the necklaces around his neck.

Trump slams 'weak' and 'decaying' Europe

Rift with Europe deepens as US urges Zelenskyy to accept ceasefire terms

WASHINGTON, AFP

United States President Donald Trump deepened his rift with Europe in an interview with Politico published Tuesday, calling the continent "weak" and decaying" over immigration and Ukraine.

Trump doubled down on his extraordinary recent criticisms of a region that Washington has long counted as a key ally, recycling far-right tropes about civilizational decline in Europe.

"Most European nations, they're, they're decaying. They're decaying," Trump told Politico in the interview, conducted Monday.

The 79-year-old billionaire, whose political rise to power was built on inflammatory language about migration, echoed far-right talking points as he said that Europe's policies were a "disaster."

"They're coming in from all parts of the world," Trump said. "But they want to be politically correct, and they don't want to send them back to where they came from."

Trump's broadside comes days after his administration's new national security strategy sparked alarm by calling for the cultivation of "resistance" in the EU against liberal migration policies.

Asked if European countries would not remain US allies if they failed to embrace his administration's policies on the issue, Trump replied that "it depends."

"I think they're weak, but they also want to be so politically correct," Trump said.

He listed countries including Britain, France, Germany, Poland and Sweden that he said were being "destroyed" by migration, and launched a new attack on the "horrible, vicious, disgusting" Sadiq Khan, London's first Muslim mayor.

Trump also brushed off the fact that the Kremlin had hailed the new US national security strategy as being in line with its own views.

"I think he (Putin) would like to see a weak Europe, and to be honest with you, he's getting that. That has nothing to do with me," he said.

Trump also criticised Europe's role in resolving the war between Russia and Ukraine, saying: "They talk, but they don't produce. And the war just keeps going on and on."

European leaders with US President Donald Trump during their meeting at the White House in Washington, DC. AFP FILE

DONALD TRUMP
US President

"Most of the European nations, they're, they're decaying. They're decaying... I think they're weak.

'Ukraine will not cede land to Russia'

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has reaffirmed his refusal to cede any territory, resisting US pressure for a compromise with Russia, AP/PTI reports from Rome. "We, clearly, don't want to give up anything. That's what we are fighting for," Zelenskyy said.

US deeply committed to Quad, says Rubio

NEW YORK/WASHINGTON, PTI: The US is "deeply committed" to the Quad - the grouping with India, Japan and Australia - and will continue to build on that in the year to come, Secretary of State Marco Rubio has said.

"...we're also deeply committed to the Quad, the concept of in conjunction with Japan and India, the building out of this Quad, which is something you'll see," Rubio said Monday. He delivered remarks along with Secretary of War Pete Hegseth, Australian Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister Richard Marles and Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong at the Department of State before the Australia-US Ministerial Consultations.

Rubio said the Quad Foreign Ministers' meeting was his first meeting soon after he was sworn in as Secretary of State in January this year.

"I had been confirmed, sworn in downstairs, and came right up on that elevator and into this room. And it was in this very room that I did my first event as Secretary of State with the Quad," Rubio said. "...I think we've had at least three meetings this year, if I'm – I recall correctly, and we'll continue to build on that," Rubio said.

Cambodia vows fierce fight against Thailand in border conflict

SURIN (THAILAND), AP/PTI: Cambodia's powerful Senate President Hun Sen on Tuesday vowed that his country would wage a fierce fight against Thailand, as a second day of renewed and widespread combat between the Southeast Asian neighbours forced tens of thousands of people to flee border areas.

Fighting erupted after a skirmish in which one Thai soldier was killed on Sunday night, despite a ceasefire that ended five days of clashes in July over competing territorial claims along their border. That confrontation resulted in dozens of civilian and military deaths on both sides, and the evacuation of more than 100,000 civilians.

In a statement posted on Facebook and Telegram, Hun Sen said Cambodia had refrained from firing back on Monday but had begun retaliating against Thai forces overnight. He wrote that concentrating fire on areas of Thai advance would allow Cambodia "to weaken and destroy enemy forces through counterattacks".

Thailand's army said Cambodian forces fired artillery at a village in Sa Kaeo province early Tuesday morning, though the strike caused no casualties. "Cambodia wants peace, but Cambodia is forced to fight back to defend its territory," Hun Sen said. Hun Sen was Cambodia's long-serving prime minister until 2023.

Police officers stand near a seven-storey building damaged by fire in Jakarta on Tuesday. REUTERS

22 killed in Jakarta office building fire

Battery spark suspected as cause of blaze

JAKARTA, AP/PTI

A fire ripped through an office building in Indonesia's capital, Jakarta, on Tuesday, killing at least 22 people, including a pregnant woman, police said.

Flames engulfed the seven-story building, sending thick black smoke billowing into the sky and causing panic among nearby residents and workers in a neighbourhood in central Jakarta.

The fire, which broke out around midday, is believed to have started on the first floor of the building in the Kemayoran neighbourhood before spreading to other floors, Central Jakarta police chief Susatyo Purnomo Condro said. Hundreds of personnel and 29 fire trucks were deployed to try to contain the blaze. The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

Many workers in the building, which was used as a sales and storage office for a drone company, were out for lunch when a battery started sparking in a storage and testing area, said Condro, citing several witnesses. The fire was extinguished after three hours of intense effort. At least 22 bodies — seven men and 15 women, including a pregnant woman — were recovered from the building.

A resident, Intan Puspita, whose home is close to the building, told The Associated Press that the fire started with a loud bang and workers running outside. "When asked, they said that there was an alleged short circuit in one of the batteries during the charging process," Puspita said.

The fire spread quickly, and she saw workers on the upper floors trying to escape by moving to the rooftop. "I saw about 20 victims in the body bags being evacuated from inside," Puspita said. "It was tragic." Television reports showed the tense evacuation of more than a dozen trapped workers, including many women, from the sixth floor using an emergency ladder extended by firefighters.

Authorities said most of the victims died from smoke inhalation.

Imran Khan's sisters protest outside jail

ISLAMABAD, PTI: Jailed former Pakistan prime minister Imran Khan's sisters on Tuesday staged a sit-in outside the Adiala jail after authorities denied them permission to meet their brother.

Khan, 73, has been in Adiala Jail in Rawalpindi since August 2023 in multiple cases. His sisters - Noreen Khan, Aleema Khan and Uzma Khan - went to see him but were stopped from entering the jail premises.

Flavio Bolsonaro confirms Brazil presidential run

SAO PAULO/BRASILIA, REUTERS: Brazilian Senator Flavio Bolsonaro said on Tuesday his decision to run for president in 2026 is "irreversible," reaffirming he would challenge President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva after suggesting over the weekend he might step aside.

The lawmaker spoke to reporters after visiting his father, former right-wing President Jair Bolsonaro, who is serving a 27-year sentence for plotting a coup after losing the 2022 election to Lula.

"I told him this candidacy is irreversible," the younger Bolsonaro said.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby notified that, my client intends to purchase the Schedule Property from its owners Sri.K.Venugopal & Smt.K.Sunitha Venugopal, Villa No.84, 'PALM MEADOWS', Ramagondahalli, Whitefield, Bangalore.

Persons having objection for the proposed sale, claiming right, title or interest over the same should write to the undersigned with documentary proof within Seven days from the date of this publication, failing which, my client shall proceed with the sale transaction.

SCHEDULE

Residential flat No.D-501, Municipal No.56/114, PID No.58-99-56/114, Fifth Floor of "ADARSH GARDENS" with a super built up area 1670 sq.ft., 47th 'A' Cross, 8th Blk Jayanagar, Bangalore, together with 520 sq.ft of undivided share in the land of residentially converted lands in Sy.Nos.66 & 75/1, at Sarakki Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, with one covered car parking space.

Sd/-
T. MOHANDAS RAO
Advocate
16, 4th Floor, 'Grand Majestic Mall'
II Cross Road, Gandhinagar,
Bangalore – 560009
Mob: 9342573620

Bangalore
Dated:08.12.2025

STORES E-PROCUREMENT

E-procurement Tender Notice No. S/31/2025-26 Dated: 05-12-2025.
E-tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following works.
SN.1. Tender No. 50/25/5376A/OT/191/2025-26
Closing/Opening date: 26-12-2025

Brief Description P.L. No. & Qty: Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of IP Based Video Surveillance System for Rolling Stock of Indian Railway for Dual cab Diesel Locomotives as RDSO's specification no. RDSO/SPN/TC/106/2025 version 3.1, effective from 04.06.2025 including all accessories required for fitment. [Warranty Period: 42 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: CONSG, Stage Insp.: NA, Stages: 0] [UVAM Linking: Item Type: Goods(supply) Qty: 74 Set for SSE/D/New Guwahati, NFR (Assam) P.L. No - 295000340075. (2) CAMC for five years after for Dual cab Diesel Locomotives as per RDSOs specification no RDSO/SPN/TC/106/2025 version 3.1.effective from 04.06.2025 and CLW Document No. CLW/ELDO/AMC/VSS/01 Eev-0 Alt-C including all accessories required for fitment. [Warranty Period: Months after the date of delivery, AMC Period: 5 years, Rate of Discounting 10% Start After year: 3] [Inspection Agency: CONSG, Stage Insp.: NA, Stages: 0] Item Type: AMC. Qty: 74 Nos for SSE/D/New Guwahati, NFR (Assam) P.L. No.-29500034007. (3) Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of IP Based Video Surveillance System for Rolling Stock of Indian Railway for Single cab Diesel Locomotives as per RDSO's specification no. RDSO/SPN/TC/106/2025 version 3.1, effective from 04.06.2025 including all accessories required for fitment. (Warranty Period: 42 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: CONSG, Stage Insp.: NA, Stages: 0] [UVAM Linking: Item Type: Goods (supply) Qty: 33 Set for SSE/D/New Guwahati, NFR (Assam) P.L. No - 295000340063. (4) CAMC for five years after for Single cab Diesel Locomotives as per RDSOs specification no RDSO/SPN/TC/106/2025 version 3.1. effective from 04.06.2025 and CLW Document No. CLW/ELDO/AMC/VSS/01 Rev-0 Alt-C including all accessories required for fitment. [Warranty Period: Months after the date of delivery, AMC Period: 5 years, Rate of Discounting 10% Start After year: 3] [Inspection Agency: CONSG, Stage Insp.: NA, Stages: 0] Item Type: AMC. Qty: 33 Nos. for SSE/D/New Guwahati, NFR (Assam) P.L. No.-29500034006.

Note: For full details o f tender notice and tender documents, tenderer may log on to the website **(www.ireps.gov.in)**. Prospective bidder who intend to participate in above tender are required to log on themselves with the above website and submit their offer electronically, if they are already registered with IREPS. In Case they are not registered with IREPS, they are advised to obtain class-III Digital Signature Certificate from the certifying agencies under Govt. of India IT Act 2000 and participate in the above tenders.

PCMM, Maligaon

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JAPIT
Jharkhand Agency for Promotion of Information Technology
(An Autonomous body under Department of Information Technology, Govt. of Jharkhand)
Ground Floor, Engineer's Hostel – I, Near Golchakkar, Dhurwa, Ranchi, Jharkhand
Phone. 0651-2401040, 2401067 Fax.- 0651-2401040

TENDER CANCELLATION NOTICE
(Ref. No. - JAP-IT/AMC/01/2025)

The tender for "Selection of System Integrator for Annual Maintenance of Items Installed at MGM Medical College, Jamshedpur" (Ref. No. JAP-IT/AMC/01/2025) is cancelled due to some unavoidable reasons and will be re-tendered in due course of time.

(PR-354028)
Sd/-
Officer on Special Duty
PR 368112 Information Technology(25-26).D JAP-IT

JAPIT
Jharkhand Agency for Promotion of Information Technology
(An Autonomous body under Department of Information Technology, Govt. of Jharkhand)
Ground Floor, Engineer's Hostel – I,
Near Golchakkar, Dhurwa, Ranchi, Jharkhand
Phone. 0651-2401040, 2401067 Fax.- 0651-2401040

NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)

On behalf of the MGM Medical College, Jamshedpur, JAP-IT re-invites Online Bids through Jharkhand e-procurement portal (https:\\Jharkhand tenders.gov.in) for "Selection of System Integrator for Annual Maintenance of Items Installed at MGM Medical College, Jamshedpur". Details are as follows :

1.	**Tender Reference number**	JAP-IT/AMC/02/2025
2.	Name of Work	Selection of System Integrator for Annual Maintenance of Items Installed at MGM Medical College, Jamshedpur
3.	Tender Fee	INR 10,000/-(Rupees Ten Thousand only) through Jharkhand e-Procurement portal
4.	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	INR 1,00,000/- (Rupees One Lakh Only) through Jharkhand e-Procurement portal
5.	Start date/time of downloading Tender document	17-12-2025, 03:00 PM
6.	Site Visit Schedule	22-12-2025 to 26-12-2025 (From 11.30 AM at 4.30 PM)
7.	Start date of bid submission	26-12-2025, 03:00 PM
8.	Last date and time of Online Bid Submission	19-01-2026, 03:00 PM
9.	Technical Bid Opening	20-01-2026, 03:30 PM
10.	Commercial Bid Opening	To be informed later.
11.	Place of Bid Submission/ Bid Opening	JAP-IT, Ground Floor, Engineers Hostel 1, Near Golchakkar, Dhurwa, Ranchi-834004
12.	Contact for Site Visit	Principal, MGM Medical College, Jamshedpur Dimna Road, Mango, Jamshedpur, East Singhbhum, Jharkhand, Pin -831020 Email ID :- mgmmedicalcollege.jamshedpur@gmail.com
13.	Contact e-mail ID	Tel: 0651-2401044 Email: ceo.japit@jharkhandmail.gov.in / japit_doit@rediffmail.com

Note: 1. JAP-IT reserves the right to change the conditions or cancel the tendering process at any stage without assigning any reason thereof. Please visit the portal regularly for the same.

2. The Bidders are advised to submit the Bids well in advance as JAP-IT/GoJ will not be responsible for non-submission of the bids because of any technical glitches

PR 368114 Information Technology(25-26).D

Sd/-
Officer on Special Duty, JAP-IT

Microsoft to invest over Rs 1.55 lakh crore in India

The US tech giant's new data centre will go live in mid-2026

UMA KANNAN
BENGALURU, DHNS

Microsoft on Tuesday announced over Rs 1.55 lakh crore ($17.5 billion) investment in India over four years (CY2026-2029) to advance the country's cloud, AI infrastructure, skilling and ongoing operations. This is the largest investment in Asia by the US tech giant, and comes at a time when organisations are enhancing their AI capabilities and upskilling talent.

This investment comes on top of the earlier $3 billion investment it announced in January this year. Microsoft Chairman and CEO Satya Nadella, who met Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi on Tuesday, in a post on X said, "Thank You, PM Narendra Modi ji, for an inspiring conversation on India's AI opportunity. To support the country's ambitions, Microsoft is committing US$17.5B—our largest investment ever in Asia—to help build the infrastructure, skills, and sovereign capabilities needed for India's AI-first future."

In their meeting, both leaders (Nadella and the PM) discussed the country's AI roadmap and growth priorities. Microsoft's investment in India focuses on three pillars — scale, skills and sovereignty — aligned with the PM's vision of building a comprehensive ecosystem that drives AI innovation and access at a national scale, the company said in a statement.

Microsoft Chairman and CEO Satya Nadella calls on Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi on Tuesday. PTI

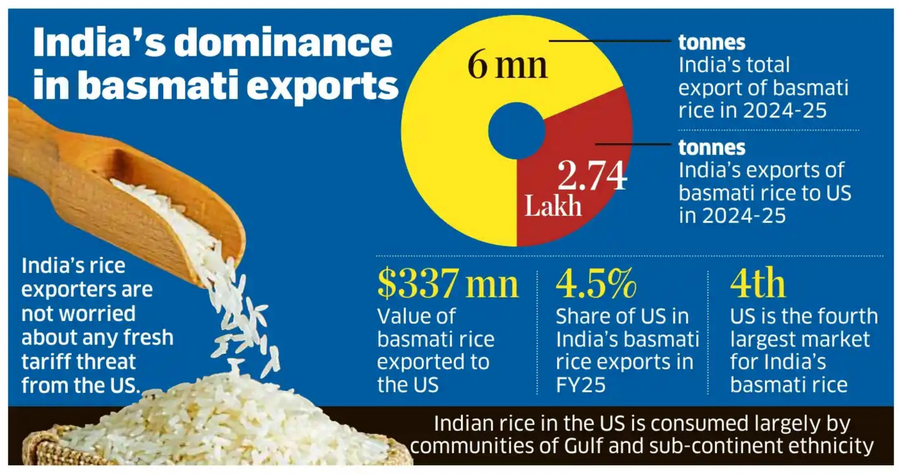
The company's new investment will also be used for skilling initiatives. This includes its workforce of more than 22,000 employees across Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Pune, Gurugram, Noida, and other cities.

One of the key priorities of the company's investment is building secure, sovereign-ready hyperscale infrastructure to enable AI adoption in India. "At the heart of this effort is the significant progress being made at the India South Central cloud region, based in Hyderabad, that is set to go live in mid-2026. This will be our largest hyperscale region in India, comprising three availability zones — roughly equivalent in size to two Eden Gardens stadiums combined," it said.

The company also announced that it will continue to expand its three existing operational data centre regions in Chennai, Hyderabad, and Pune.

Microsoft is also doubling its commitment of January 2025 to equip 20 million Indians with essential AI skills by 2030, working with government, industry, and digital public platforms.

Through its ADVANTA(I)GE India initiative, executed by Microsoft Elevate, the company has already trained 5.6 million people since January 2025.


India's dominance in basmati exports
6 mn
tonnes
India's total export of basmati rice in 2024-25
2.74 Lakh
tonnes
India's exports of basmati rice to US in 2024-25
India's rice exporters are not worried about any fresh tariff threat from the US.
$337 mn
Value of basmati rice exported to the US
4.5%
Share of US in India's basmati rice exports in FY25
4th
US is the fourth largest market for India's basmati rice
Indian rice in the US is consumed largely by communities of Gulf and sub-continent ethnicity

Trump's rice tariff threat won't impact India: Exporters

US 4th largest market for India's basmati rice, & 24th for non-basmati rice

MAHESH KULKARNI
BENGALURU, DHNS

United States President Donald Trump in a fresh salvo against India, warned that he is ready to consider imposing export tariffs on agricultural exports, including Indian rice. Speaking at the White House roundtable meeting on Monday, Trump assured to look into India dumping cheap rice into the American market.

His latest warning, however, is unlikely to have any major impact on Indian rice exports, especially basmati rice. The US largely buys basmati rice from India.

To be precise, the US is the fourth largest market for India's basmati rice, but accounts for just 4% of the country's basmati rice exports. During fiscal 2024-25, India exported 2,74,213 tonnes of basmati rice to the US, valued at $337 million. In the same period, the country exported 61,342 tonnes of non-basmati rice, valued at $54.64 million, to the US, making the latter the 24th largest market for Indian non-Basmati rice, the data available with the Indian Rice Exporters Federation (IREF) shows.

Meanwhile, India's total exports of basmati rice stood at 6 million tonnes in 2024-25. "The US does not grow basmati rice and India is the largest producer, followed by Pakistan. While India exports 6 million tonnes of basmati rice annually, Pakistan accounts for about 1 million tonnes. If a US consumer wants to consume good-quality basmati rice, they have to buy from India no matter how much tariff the US imposes. There will be no loss for the Indian rice exporters," said All India Rice Exporters Association (AIREA) President Satish Goel.

"The proposed move will impact the American consumers of basmati rice more than the Indian rice exporters," he added.

Indian rice in the US is predominantly consumed by communities of Gulf and sub- continent ethnicity, and demand continues to expand steadily. This growth is closely linked to the rising popularity of Indian cuisine — particularly dishes such as biryani, where basmati rice is an essential ingredient and not easily replaceable.

Exports to the US remain strictly demand-driven, with most shipments executed against advance purchase orders from the US-based importers. Importantly, rice grown in the US is not a like-for-like substitute for Indian rice. Indian Basmati has a distinct aroma, elongation, texture, and flavour profile, and US-grown varieties generally do not meet the requirements of traditional dishes from the Gulf and South Asian regions, IREF said.

Prior to the recent tariff increase, Indian rice faced a tariff of 10% in the US market. With the imposition of a 50% tariff, the duty has risen by 40 percentage points. Despite this sharp hike, exports have continued, reflecting the product's essential nature in the consumer basket. Evidence from retail markets indicates that most of the tariff burden has been passed on to US consumers, as reflected in higher retail pack prices, while export realisations for Indian farmers and exporters have remained broadly stable.

Global airline industry set for record $41 b profit in 2026: IATA

HRITHIK KIRAN BAGADE
BENGALURU, DHNS

The global airline industry is projected to stabilise profitability in 2026, posting a record net profit of $41 billion, higher than the $39.5 billion expected this year, according to the International Air Transport Association (IATA). This growth comes despite continued headwinds including supply chain disruptions, regulatory cost burdens, infrastructure challenges and geopolitical tensions, the global airline trade body said in its latest financial outlook released in Geneva on Tuesday.

Passenger demand is expected to remain strong, particularly in the Asia-Pacific region, with India and China emerging as key drivers. IATA forecasts the region will post a net profit of $6.6 billion in 2026, with profit per passenger estimated at $3.20. "Passenger demand remains robust, with India and China leading regional expansion, driven by rising tourism and a growing middle-class," the report states.

Industry margins, however, are expected to remain unchanged. The net profit margin for 2026 is forecast at 3.9%, with profit per passenger at $7.90 — the same as 2025 and slightly below the 2023 peak of $8.50. "Airlines are expected to generate a 3.9% net margin and a $41 billion profit in 2026. That's extremely welcome news, considering the headwinds the industry faces — rising costs from bottlenecks in the aerospace supply chain, geopolitical conflict, sluggish global trade, and growing regulatory burdens," IATA Director General Willie Walsh reiterated.

Willie Walsh

Supply chain challenges continue to constrain capacity growth and profitability. Aircraft delivery delays and manufacturing issues have resulted in a shortage of at least 5,300 aircraft globally, with the order backlog now exceeding 17,000 units — nearly 60% of the world's active fleet. Airbus' recent A320 delivery adjustment, following fuselage panel inspections, has further contributed to constraints.

Operational inefficiencies linked to conflicts and restricted airspace are expected to persist. "Airspace closures, GNSS (Global Navigation Satellite System) interference, and re-routing for both political and safety reasons are constraining operations and reducing efficiencies," the report notes.

$1 trillion revenues

On the revenue front, the industry is expected to cross the $1 trillion threshold for a second consecutive year. Total revenues are projected to rise 4.5% to $1.053 trillion in 2026, with operating expenses forecast at $981 billion. Passenger numbers are expected to rise 4.4% to 5.2 billion, with ticket revenues projected at $751 billion. Air cargo revenue is forecast at $158 billion, supported by strong e-commerce flows and semiconductor shipments.

Regionally, Europe is forecast to deliver the highest profit at $14 billion in 2026, followed by North America at $11.3 billion.

IBM's Confluent buy boosts its enterprise AI dominance

UMA KANNAN
BENGALURU, DHNS

IBM has placed one of its biggest bets in recent times by acquiring data streaming platform Confluent for $11 billion, and analysts observe that this will significantly boost its competitiveness in the enterprise AI ecosystem.

Confluent provides an open-source enterprise data streaming platform that connects, processes and governs reusable and reliable data and events in real time, foundational for the deployment of AI. In the last four years, Confluent's total addressable market (TAM) has doubled from $50 billion to $100 billion in 2025.

Confluent CEO and co-founder Jay Kreps is one of the original creators of Apache Kafka, an open-source technology that is used by companies to handle real-time data feeds. During his recent visit to Bengaluru, Kreps had said that over 30% of the world's Kafka community members were in APAC, and India alone was home to the second-largest Kafka community globally, after the US.

The Confluent acquisition gives IBM a powerful real-time data streaming foundation built on Kafka. It strengthens IBM's hybrid-cloud and AI stack by enabling seamless data movement across systems — something enterprises struggle with today. With fresher, more accessible data, IBM can offer a fully-integrated 'data-to-AI' pipeline, improving performance, scalability, and reliability for enterprise clients, AI & Beyond co-founder Jaspreet Bindra told *DH*.

"With the acquisition of Confluent, IBM will provide the smart data platform for enterprise IT, purpose-built for AI," IBM Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer Arvind Krishna said in a statement.

Enterprise AI has become essential for competitiveness. Companies are generating more data than ever, and AI is the only scalable way to make sense of it — for automation, forecasting, customer insights, and operational efficiency. "But AI is only as strong as the data behind it, which makes modern, real-time data infrastructure indispensable. Businesses that don't adopt enterprise AI risk falling behind," Bindra said.

With this acquisition, IBM can enhance its dominance in AI. "By combining Confluent's data streaming with its AI and hybrid-cloud offerings, IBM strengthens its position as a comprehensive enterprise AI provider. Instead of just offering AI tools, IBM can now deliver an end-to-end platform — from data ingestion to AI outcomes. This significantly boosts its competitiveness in the enterprise AI ecosystem," he further said.

According to IDC, over one billion new logical applications will emerge by 2028, reshaping technology architectures across industries. In order to drive productivity in operations, these applications, as well as AI agents, need access to connected and trusted data in real-time.

Gartner Senior Director Analyst Andrew Humphreys said IBM's announcement makes clear that its main focus for the acquisition is real-time data streaming to support AI. They are looking to provide the platform to move, process and govern data to support AI as an important new battleground. He said that Salesforce had a similar focus in its acquisition of Informatica. "This enables IBM to compete more effectively against Salesforce, Oracle, etc. as being the platform to control and access your data and feed AI," he added.

IBM and Confluent both frame event stream processing as essential 'connective tissue' for delivering real-time, context-aware data to AI agents.

Sensex tanks 436 points

MUMBAI, PTI: Stock markets closed lower for the second straight day on Tuesday, with benchmark BSE Sensex declining by 436 points as investors booked profit ahead of the US Federal Reserve's policy decision.

The 30-share BSE Sensex dropped 436.41 points, or 0.51%, to close at a nearly two-week low of 84,666.28. During the day, the barometer plunged by 719.73 points, or 0.84%, to hit an intraday low of 84,382.96 as blue-chip private banks, oil and IT shares retreated.

The 50-share NSE Nifty dropped by 120.90 points, or 0.47%, to settle at 25,839.65. In the intraday session, it depreciated by 232.55 points, or 0.89%, to hit a low of 25,728.

Among the Sensex constituents, Asian Paints, Tech Mahindra, HCL Technologies, Tata Steel, Maruti Suzuki India, Sun Pharmaceuticals, Tata Consultancy Services, ICICI Bank, Bajaj Finance, UltraTech Cement, Mahindra & Mahindra and Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles were the laggards. However, Eternal, Titan, Adani Ports, Bharat Electronics Ltd, State Bank of India, Bajaj Finserv, NTPC and Bharti Airtel were among the gainers.

Meanwhile, the Indian rupee pared its initial losses and settled for the day in the positive territory, up 18 paise at 89.87 against the US dollar on Tuesday, as the American currency and crude oil prices retreated from their elevated levels.

CBI books Anil Ambani's son in bank fraud case

NEW DELHI, PTI: The CBI registered two FIRs against Anil Dhirubhai Ambani group companies — Reliance Home Finance Ltd and Reliance Commercial Finance Ltd — in separate bank fraud cases, naming Anil Ambani's son Jai Anmol in one of them and bringing alleged loan defaults worth Rs 14,852 crore under scanner, officials said on Tuesday.

The CBI has named Jai Anmol, the then director of RHFL, along with ex-CEO Ravindra Sharad Sudhakar in connection with the case of allegedly cheating the Union Bank of India of Rs 228 crore.

T'gana clocks in Rs 5.39 L cr investments

HYDERABAD, DHNS: Telangana attracted investments worth Rs 5.39 lakh crore across sectors, including renewable energy, life sciences, and entertainment during the two day Telangana Rising summit that had concluded on Tuesday.

The Day 2 signing of MoUs was dominated by massive, capital-intensive projects that will form the backbone of Telangana's digital economy. The largest single commitments came from the data centre and AI infrastructure sector. Leading the surge was Infrakey Datacenter Parks, which signed a landmark deal to set up a 1-GW AI data centre, with an investment of Rs 70,000 crore.

AGIDC, Singapore, committed Rs 67,500 crore to set up a major IGW (International Gateway) Data Centre, while JCK Infra Projects Ltd committed Rs 9,000 crore toward developing an integrated AI city/township within the Bharat Future City blueprint. In Green Mobility and Electronics, RCT-Germany is setting up manufacturing for Battery Energy Storage System containers, with an investment of Rs 2,500 crore. Bharath Garuda committed Rs 2,100 crore to a new car manufacturing project.

Danube unveils Rs 4k cr project named after Shah Rukh Khan

GYANENDRA KESHRI
DUBAI, DHNS

Danube Properties on Tuesday announced that it will develop a Rs 4,000 crore premium commercial tower project in Dubai named after Bollywood actor Shah Rukh Khan.

The property is targeted to further boost investments by Indians in Dubai's real estate market. "Indians are the biggest buyers. We hope to sell around 25% of the units to Indians," Danube Group Founder and Chairman Rizwan Sajan said.

Shah Rukh Khan

According to Sajan, investments by Indians in Dubai property markets have gone up significantly in the post-Covid years. Nearly one in every four property buyers in Dubai are Indians.

Sajan, who is the richest Indian leading a business conglomerate in Dubai, said income tax benefits, safety and world-class infrastructure are the key attractions for Indians to invest in Dubai properties.

"Property prices in Dubai are still reasonable. At comparable locations, prices in Dubai are cheaper than Mumbai and Gurugram," he said, adding that property prices in Dubai are expected to increase an average 15-20% annually in the coming years.

Danube Group Managing Director Adel Sajan said Dubai's property would be the first real estate project to be named after Khan. "In fact, this will be the first celebrity tower. There is no example of a commercial tower being developed in the name of a film star be it Bollywood or Hollywood," Adel said. The proposed 55-storey commercial tower located at Sheikh Zayed Road, Dubai's premium business artery, will be named 'Shahrukhz by Danube'. The tower is likely to be completed in the next 3-4 years.

"Our target is 3-4 years. However, normally we have been delivering our projects before the target," Sajan said.

Danube group, which ventured into the real estate development business in Dubai in 2014, has launched around 40 projects so far. Out of these, 18 have been delivered, said Adel. "Our target is to launch 4-5 projects every year," he said.

(This Correspondent was in Dubai at the invitation of Danube)

JOB THREAT

'90% of jobs could experience some degree of disruption by Gen AI'

UMA KANNAN
BENGALURU, DHNS

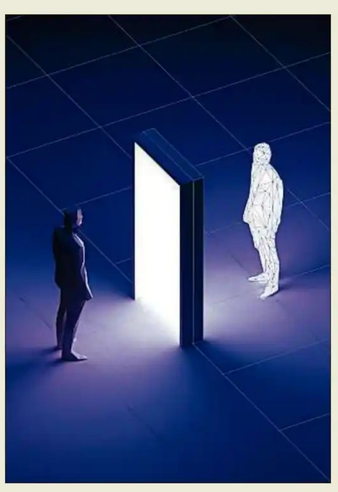
With an increasing number of organisations adopting AI, employees are concerned about job disruption because of its pace and scale. A recent Cognizant-Oxford Economics study pointed out that in the next 10 years, 90% of jobs could experience some degree of disruption by Generative AI. It said that most jobs will see some change from Gen AI, and over half could be greatly impacted.

Experts say the modern workplace is fast evolving. "AI is no longer something you read about in headlines — it's already in your office, your tools, and your daily workflows. Across industries, jobs are shifting in ways we're still getting used to, and that can feel unsettling," Grassik Search Director & Head Tech-Enabled Businesses Sahil Thakur.

There is no doubt that a significant number of jobs will be replaced by AI.

But what one needs to understand is that AI isn't here to replace anyone. It's here to improve productivity and handle monotonous and repetitive tasks, he explained.

"Those endless data entries are gone. Formatting long reports has been automated. What's left is what humans do best — thinking creatively, making tough decisions, building relationships, and leading teams. Take a programmer who now spends less time hunting bugs and more time architecting solutions. However, the future workforce must upskill themselves to be eligible to handle these new tools and make the best use of them. As AI evolves, new unique roles will get created, and those who are well-versed with AI will remain relevant in the future," Thakur said.



Cognizant has set a new goal to upskill a total of 2 million individuals by the end of 2030. As of October 2025, over 163,000 India-based associates have completed a course on Gen AI fundamentals.

The report said that adoption of Gen AI could move quickly in the decade ahead. In another five years, Gen AI will assist roles that have traditionally been the exclusive domain of human intuition and experience. It also pointed out that no business can guarantee layoffs will not occur and that by reskilling, businesses will grow the overall productivity pie.

SAIGroup MD Kalyan Kolachala sees parallels with the dot-com boom, when he was in the centre of it in Silicon Valley. SAIGroup is an enterprise AI investment and operating firm. "Then we overestimated the speed of change while underestimating the eventual impact of the digital economy and the internet, and I feel the trajectory will be similar to AI. The AI disruption should not be a cause of alarm, but a call for action," he said.

AI will certainly be a huge productivity aid and augment jobs, and in some cases, humans will be the experts validating/verifying AI output. This increased productivity implies that many jobs will evolve and people will need to move up the value-chain, where there will be many more jobs, he further said.

He calls for re-skilling and continuous learning in AI tools and technologies, and other relevant applied skills, where companies and the government need to help. "There are also unique human skills which AI is unlikely to replace and will remain in demand. It is also a huge opportunity for India, given the young digital talent, and thus India can become the AI talent capital by 2035, but only if we start reskilling today," he added.

Ashwa Bravo wins feature

DELHI RESULTS

S Nawab-trained Ashwa Bravo, ridden by Shivam, won the Royal Crown Plate, the feature event of the Delhi races on Tuesday.

1. President's Estate Plate - 1400M: Bhujang (Sanjay Rai) Rakesh 1; Mr Christopher (Vishal) 2; Ashwa Sirohi (Narendra Kumar) 3; Heer (Shivam) 4; Wb: 5, 2-1/2L, Hd. T: 1:25.02. TB: Ajay Sharma. Fav: Ashwa Sirohi.

2. Royal Crown Plate -1400M: Ashwa Bravo (Ravinder Pal Singh) Shivam 1; Lodge Keeper (Rakesh) 2; Amazing A One (Vishal Shivhare) 3; Ashwa Figaro (R Yousaf) 4; Not Run: Ashwa Parth. Wb: 5-1/2, 2, 7L. T: 1:23.33. TB: S.Nawab. Fav: Lodge Keeper.

3. Vijay Chowk Plate - 1400M: Shahzada (Gaurav Babbar) MB Qureshi 1; Aerodynamic (Faizan Khan) 2; Girl Power (RN Manjhi) 3; Last Romance (Shivam) 4; Wb: 3-3/4, 3/4, 1/2L. 1:26.12. TB: Rajinder. Fav: Shahzada.

4. Moughal Garden Plate (Div I) - 1100M: Real Stuff (Rajesh Seghal) Dhanu Deora 1; Master Tornado (Faizan Khan) 2; Jaat Hero (Vishall) 3; Dashing Harry (Shivam) 4; Wb: 1-3/4, 1-1/2, 2L. T: 1:05.27. TB: Magan Singh. Fav: Master Tornado.

5. Moughal Garden Plate (Div II) - 1100M: Golden Sun (Rajesh Sehgal) Dhanu Deora 1; Winning Legacy (Rakesh) 2; Nothing To Worry (Faizan Khan) 3; Ticker (Riazuddin) 4; Wb: Shd, 2-1/4, 4-3/4L. T: 1:04.41. TB: VS Parmar. Fav: Golden Sun.

6. President' House Plate - 1000M: Master Cowboy (Sunil Kumar Varma) Lave Kumar 1; Lemon Pie (Kundan Paswan) 2; Tiem To win (Narendra Kumar) 3; Jet Sukhoi (Vishal Shivhare) 4; Wb: 2-3/4, 2-3/4, 1-1/4L. T: 0:59.17. TB: S.M.Abbas. Fav: Time To Win.

Bengaluru dividends:
I race: Rs 36w; 13, 10, 14p; Fc: Rs 128; Q: Rs 48; Shp: Rs 39; Thp: Rs 39; Tri: Rs 252 & 89; Ex: Rs 539 & 158.
II race: Rs 24w; 11, 10, 10p; Fc: Rs 45; Q: Rs 20; Shp: Rs 22; Thp: Rs 22; Tri: Rs 60 & 25; Ex: Rs 276 & 187.
III race: Rs 28w; 15, 23, 22p; Fc: Rs 842; Q: Rs 701; Shp: Rs 92; Thp: Rs 64; Tri: Rs 3,754 & 1,126; Ex: Rs 37,626 (c/o).
IV race: Rs 22w; 11, 10, 10: Fc: Rs 51. Q: Rs 29; Shp: Rs 34; Thp: Rs 32; Tri: Rs 136 & 42;. Ex: Rs 394 & 224.
V race: Rs 15w; 11, 10, 33p; Fc: Rs 26; Q: Rs 23; Shp: Rs 27; Thp: Rs 62; Tri: Rs 219 & 127; Ex: Rs 968 & 362.
VI race: Rs 126w; 26, 14, 10p; Fc: Rs 1,624; Q: Rs 800; Shp: Rs 30; Thp: Rs 55; Tri: Rs 3,089 & 1,040; Ex: Rs 35,849 (c/o) & 15,363. .
Jackpot: Rs 36,000 (5). **Runner-up:** Rs 300 (257). **Treble:** Rs 691 (117).

Hafis stars for FC Mangalore

BENGALURU, DHNS: Hafis PA netted a brace as FC Mangalore beat Revive FC 2-0 in the BDFA A Division League Championship at the Bangalore Football Stadium here on Tuesday.

Haris broke the deadlock in the 57th minute of the game through a penalty. He then doubled his and the team's tally in the final stages of the game to hand them three points.

Results: Group A: ADE FC: 1 (Budiram Hansdah 63rd) drew with South India FC: 1 (Moriangthem Haikhombam Singh 65th pen); Juno FC: 1 (Prithvi G 16th) drew with William FC: 1 (Dhananjaya A 23rd).

Group B: FC Mangalore: 2 (Hafis PA 57th pen, 80th+4) bt Revive FC: 0

HOCKEY JUNIOR WORLD CUP

It's German might vs Spanish courage

Europeans lock horns in mouth-watering final today

Defending champions and seven-time winners Germany start as the favourites in the final against Spain in Chennai on Wednesday. PTI

HITA PRAKASH
CHENNAI, DHNS

Method to the madness: a mantra that Germany's under-21 boys' hockey team faithfully adheres to. It is evident in the way they carry themselves - at practice, during warm-up, in an intense on-field game and even at post-match interactions.

There is an unmistakable clarity in every step they take towards their collective goal that is perhaps chalked down on the white board in bold letters reading: 'Trophy or nothing'.

So it comes as no surprise that the world No. 1 team and defending champions Germany are one step away from lifting a whopping eighth title at the FIH Junior World Cup when they take on Spain in the final at the Mayor Radhakrishnan Hockey Stadium in Chennai on Wednesday.

Except a closely-fought quarterfinal contest against a gung-ho France, the Germans have cruised past opponents with authority -- including the semifinal against India where the hosts were dismantled 5-1.

Since the beginning of the tournament, co-hosted by Madurai and Chennai, the Paul Glander-led side have displayed a playing style that's structured and disciplined. To command the proceedings and demand the opponents to play catch-up with such effortless ease takes work. What kind of preparation does it take to put together a group of young champions?

"In our team, everyone has a job off the pitch," head coach Mirko Stenzel told *DH*.

"It can range from being responsible for the balls, training material and equipment or taking a physio assistant's role. And in the beginning it didn't really work that well with some of the players. And over the year, you know, they understood why all this extra things are expected of them. It's important in order for us to find good balance with structure and training and periodisation," offered 35-year-old Stenzel who shares coaching duties with 37-year-old Johannes Schmitz.

Right! The method to the madness begins by focussing on the little details. And keeping a close watch on the little details with a hope to break into the mighty German fort are the world No. 4 Spaniards.

The finallists have played each other twice earlier this year in Berlin. Both games going Germany's way with 3-2 and 2-1 scorelines.

"I think, that the match is well balanced," felt Oriol Puig Torras, Spain's head coach ahead of the title round.

"Maybe, maybe the emotional part, it's 60-40 for Germany because their last match against India was top match and it wasn't our best performance against Argentina. But this a different day, different match. We are ready," added Torras.

The French came agonisingly close (where goalkeeper Jasper Ditzer starred in the penalty shootout) and the rest have mostly failed against the well-rounded Germans. And the reply to a query about their strategy for the final is also as well-guarded as their exploits have been at the event so far.

"Hopefully, we take another final step towards winning the whole world Cup," said coach Stenzel.

Smarting Indians seek podium finish

HITA PRAKASH
CHENNAI, DHNS

A wounded India will need to regroup quickly when they take on Argentina in the bronze medal play-off on Wednesday. PTI

The encounter for the bronze medal at the FIH Men's Junior World Cup will be between two teams that are hurting. Though contrasting in its nature, both India and Argentina have had to endure crushing semifinal losses.

If the hosts were swatted aside and left clueless by a dominant Germany, the South Americans were reduced to tears following a controversial winning goal awarded to Spain.

Now, the teams -- both two-time title holders -- are geared up to go at each other hammer and tongs, desperate to finish as the third team on the podium. In what is slated to be a physical battle, India have no room for 'ifs or buts' and will need immediate solutions for several glitches to walk away with a medal. While finishing touches have deserted the Rohit Yadav-led world No. 2 side, lack of original ideas and fear creeping in at crunch situations have made them predictable and vulnerable.

LIVE 5:30 PM, STAR SPORTS

Goalkeeper Prince-deep Singh has been an exception. But for the rest, it is one last chance to prove a point. Defenders Rohit, Sunil PB, Amir Ali and Anmol Ekka will be expected to be sharper, midfielders Manmeet Singh, Rosan Kujur, Gurjot Singh, Ankit Pal will want to be firmer and the forwards Arshdeep Singh, Ajeet Yadav and Dilraj Singh will look to unleash more sting in their shots. Shardanand Tiwari along with the skipper and Anmol will hope to flick some shots in to flip their penalty corner fortunes.

Anything but will set the alarm bells ringing. For, the world No. 3 Argentina are sure to come out with vengeance. Head coach Juan Gilardi has been vocal about the unfair treatment his young players have been subjected to by the umpires in the entire tournament.

Expect the close-knit unit to resort to man-to-man play, rely on their attacking prowess and fearless attitude to put up a show in front of their opposition's home crowd.

Real pressure on coach Alonso

Madrid boss stays upbeat ahead of Man City clash

MADRID, REUTERS

Real Madrid manager Xabi Alonso faces mounting pressure ahead of Wednesday's Champions League group-stage meeting against Pep Guardiola's Manchester City, but the Spaniard was confident the team could turn their poor form around.

Sunday's 2-0 loss to Celta Vigo, in which Real were reduced to nine players after defenders Fran Garcia and Alvaro Carreras were sent off, left the club second in La Liga with 36 points, four behind leaders Barcelona.

Adding to Alonso's challenges, Madrid could be without as many as eight key players, including top-scorer Kylian Mbappe, who missed training on Tuesday with a muscle injury.

"Football can change quickly... for good or for bad," Alonso told a press conference on Tuesday. "After the Celta match, we've already drawn our conclusions.

"Now it's just City in our minds. It's the Champions League, we're at the Bernabeu.

"It will be different because of the energy that's created. That's what's on our minds, what's ahead of us."

Asked whether his job could be at risk if Real falter against City, Alonso remained defiant.

"When you coach Real Madrid, you have to be prepared for situations like this. We are a team, we are all united," he said.

Mbappe's absence would be a significant blow for Alonso's team, with the Frenchman leading both the La Liga and Champions League scoring charts this season.

The 26-year-old joins an already packed injury list that includes Dani Carvajal, Trent Alexander-Arnold, Dean Huijsen, Eder Militao, David Alaba, Ferland Mendy and Eduardo Camavinga.

LIVE 11:15 PM ONWARDS, SONY SPORTS

Wednesday's clash will be the 13th meeting between the clubs in the past decade, a rivalry that has intensified as Real and City combined to claim three of the last four Champions League titles.

Real won the competition in 2022 and 2024, beating City en route to both titles, while the English side lifted their maiden Champions League trophy in 2023 after overcoming the Spanish club in the semifinals that year.

Despite a disappointing run in recent weeks, with two victories in their last seven matches across all competitions, Alonso remained optimistic.

Wednesday's fixtures: Qarabag vs Ajax, Villarreal vs Copenhagen (both 11:15 pm); Bayer Leverkusen vs Newcastle United, Real Madrid vs Manchester City, Benfica vs Napoli, Club Brugge vs Arsenal, Athletic Club vs PSG, Juventus vs Pafos, Dortmund vs Bodo/ Glimt (all 1:30 am, Thursday).

With as many as eight key players missing, under-fire Real Madrid coach Xabi Alonso (second from right) faces a onerous challenge of marshalling his resources when the Spanish giants take on Manchester City on Wednesday. AFP

Umpires need to apologise to us: Argentina coach Gilardi

HITA PRAKASH
CHENNAI, DHNS

A controversial winner that went against Argentina in their semifinal loss had many, including the opponents Spain, sympathising. A forehand drive by Bruno Avila from outside the 23-metre line that appeared to have caught Albert Serrahima's stick (or a possible body touch) was later declared a goal.

Understandably, this had the Argentinian head coach Juan Gilardi **(in pic)** fuming that left him with a sense of their team being robbed of a final spot.

"It's not possible to lose a match like that when you are playing to reach the final. They (umpires) allowed the goal. Even the Spanish player was asking for a penalty corner and not for the goal," Gilardi, the 2016 Olympic gold medallist, told *DH*.

"We are not happy with the way that we lost that match. There have been many unfair decisions against Argentina in the whole tournament. We got a lot of cards for nothing.

"Even the managers of the umpires, they say that it was not a goal. They kind of apologised for it, but not the main umpires. They should contact me or the team manager and say: 'sorry, we made a mistake' and that's it. But the umpires are not used to apologising."

150-up Srikanth powers Srirupark Sports Club

LOCAL CRICKET

BENGALURU, DHNS: Srikanth B scored a big 156 to power his side Srirurpark Sports Club to a 100-run victory over Magadi Cricket Club in the KSCA Metro Shield Group I - IV Division league-cum-knockout tournament.

Srikanth's knock took Srirurpark to 347/7 in 50 overs. In response, Magadi CC were 247 all out with Venukumar R taking a fifer (5/43).

In another game, Suresh Karan took 5/32 to help his side Jayanagar Colts to a 44-run victory over Eleven Brothers. Suresh's effort restricted their rivals to 214 all out while defending a par total of 259.

Brief scores: Sirurpark SC: 347/7 in 50 overs (Riyaz Ahmed 46, Himanshoo Reddy 33, Srikanth B 156, Sree Roopesh S 32; Chetan Jayatheertha 2/57, Supreeth R 2/60) bt Magadi CC: 247 all out in 40.1 overs (Madhava 72, Vijay Subramanya 71; Venukumar R 5-43, Sree Roopesh S 3-50).

Jayanagar Colts: 258/9 in 50 overs (Abheet Kuthpady 49, Mithun Bhat 62, Naveen 52; Neel Jain 3-43, Anush Mehta Jain 2-45) bt Eleven Brothers CC: 214 all out in 42.2 overs (Arsh 48, Mohammed Waheed Qureshi 77, Neel Jain 46; Suresh Karani 5-32, Sujan Gunapal 3-35).

Young Pioneer CC: 232 all out in 48.3 overs (Ayush Patil 46, Zayn Zakir Hussain 45, Akash Gowda 30, Siddharth Gurav 43; M Karthik 5-41, Sandeep Kumar R 2-42) bt Zodiac CC: 180 all out in 44 overs (Pavan Yadav M 70; Gurucharan AG 3/29, Ayush M Patil 2/29, Siddharth Gurav 2/40).

Bangalore Star CA: 165 all out in 36.1 overs (Srimanth Swamy 39, Srinidhi N 32, Karthik Rathod 24, E Sudharshan 45; Sathish S 4-37, Vishwa S 3-16, Karan Sharma 2-34) lt to Merchant CC (1): 166/2 in 14 overs (Veny 114 n.o., Sathish S 28 n.o.).

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ ನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ

ಜಂಟಿ ಆಯುಕ್ತರು ರವರ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ರಾಜರಾಜೇಶ್ವರಿ ನಗರ ವಲಯ, ಐಡಿಯಲ್ ಹೋಮ್ಸ್, 18ನೇ ಕ್ರಾಸ್, ರಾಜರಾಜೇಶ್ವರಿ ನಗರ,

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಬೆಂ.ಪ.ನ.ಪಾ/ಜಂ.ಆ/ರಾ.ರಾ.ನ.ವ/ಎಲ್ಎ/665/2025-26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 15.11.2025

ವಿಷಯ : ವಾರ್ಡ್ ನಂ.160ರ (ಹೊಸ ವಾರ್ಡ್ ನಂ.45) ರ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮೈಸೂರು-ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ರಸ್ತೆಯ ಸರಪಳಿ 12.70 ಮೀ. ಸಂಪರ್ಕ ಕಲ್ಪಿಸುವ ರಸ್ತೆಯನ್ನು ಆಗಲೀಕರಣಗೊಳಿಸುವ ಸಂಬಂಧ ಕೆಂಚೇನಹಳ್ಳಿ ಗ್ರಾಮದ ಸರ್ವೆ ನಂ. 26/1ಎ2 ಮತ್ತು 26/1ಬಿ2 ರ ಜಮೀನುಗಳ/ಸ್ವತ್ತುಗಳ "ಭೂಸ್ವಾಧೀನ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ, ಸೂಕ್ತ ಪರಿಹಾರದ ಹಕ್ಕು ಪುನರ್ವಸತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪುನರ್ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ 2013" ರ ಕಲಂ 11(1)ರ ಮೇರೆಗೆ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ ಹೊರಡಿಸುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ.

ಭೂಸ್ವಾಧೀನ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ, ಸೂಕ್ತ ಪರಿಹಾರದ ಹಕ್ಕು ಪುನರ್ವಸತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪುನರ್ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ 2013 ರ ಕಲಂ 11(1) ಮೇರೆಗೆ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ

ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಉದ್ದೇಶದ ವಾರ್ಡ್ ನಂ.160ರ (ಹೊಸ ವಾರ್ಡ್ ನಂ.45) ರ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮೈಸೂರು-ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ರಸ್ತೆಯ ಸರಪಳಿ 12.70 ಮೀ. ಸಂಪರ್ಕ ಕಲ್ಪಿಸುವ ರಸ್ತೆಯನ್ನು ಆಗಲೀಕರಣಗೊಳಿಸುವ ಸಂಬಂಧ ಅವಶ್ಯವಿರುವ ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನ ಅನುಸೂಚಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾಣಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಕೆಂಚೇನಹಳ್ಳಿ ಗ್ರಾಮದ ಸರ್ವೆ ನಂ. 26/1ಎ2 ಮತ್ತು 26/1ಬಿ2 ರ ಜಮೀನುಗಳ/ಸ್ವತ್ತುಗಳ ಸ್ವಾಧೀನತೆಯ ಅವಶ್ಯಕತೆ ಇರುತ್ತದೆ ಎಂದು ಸರ್ಕಾರವು ಭಾವಿಸುತ್ತದೆ. ಈ ಯೋಜನೆಗೆ "ಭೂಸ್ವಾಧೀನ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ, ಸೂಕ್ತ ಪರಿಹಾರದ ಹಕ್ಕು ಪುನರ್ವಸತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪುನರ್ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ, 2013 (2013ರ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:30)ಕ್ಕೆ ಅನುಗುಣವಾಗಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ಅನ್ವಯಿಸುವಂತೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 23-07-2019 ರಿಂದ ಜಾರಿಗೆ ಬಂದಿರುವ 'ಭೂಸ್ವಾಧೀನ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ, ಸೂಕ್ತ ಪರಿಹಾರದ ಹಕ್ಕು ಪುನರ್ವಸತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪುನರ್ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ (ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ) ಕಾಯ್ದೆ, 2019 (2019ರ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:16)ರ ಕಲಂ 10 (ಆ) ರಡಿ ಮೂಲ ಕಾಯ್ದೆಯ ಅಧ್ಯಾಯ-II & III ರಲ್ಲಿನ ಉಪಬಂಧಗಳನ್ನು ಅನ್ವಯಿಸುವುದರಿಂದ ವಿನಾಯಿತಿ ನೀಡಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಕಂಇ 04 ಎಕ್ಕೂಬಿ 2022, ದಿನಾಂಕ: 28-03-2022 ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆಯನ್ನು ಹೊರಡಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಈ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ ರಾಜ್ಯಪತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನಾಂಕ:28-03-2022 ರಂದು ಪ್ರಕಟವಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಆದುದರಿಂದ ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ತಿಳಿಸುವುದೇನೆಂದರೆ "ಭೂಸ್ವಾಧೀನ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ, ಸೂಕ್ತ ಪರಿಹಾರದ ಹಕ್ಕು ಪುನರ್ವಸತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪುನರ್ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ, 2013" (2013ರ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:30) ರ ಕಲಂ 11ರಡಿ ಪ್ರಾಥಮಿಕ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ ಹೊರಡಿಸುವ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ಹಾಗೂ ಸದರಿ ಕಾಯ್ದೆಯ ಕಲಂ-3(ಜಿ) ರಂತೆ ಆಯುಕ್ತರ ಅಧಿಕಾರವನ್ನು ಚಲಾಯಿಸಲು ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಆರ್ಡಿ 157ಎಕ್ಕೂಬಿ 2025, ದಿನಾಂಕ: 07-11-2025 ರಂತೆ ನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ಜಂಟಿ ಆಯುಕ್ತರವರಿಗೆ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ಪ್ರತ್ಯಾಯೋಜನೆ ಮಾಡಿ ಆದೇಶಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ

ಈ ಜಮೀನುಗಳ ಸ್ವಾಧೀನ ಕೆಲಸ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುವಲ್ಲಿ ಸರ್ಕಾರದಿಂದ ನೇಮಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟ ಮೋಜಣಿದಾರರಿಗಾಗಲಿ ಅಥವಾ ಈ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡುವವರಿಗಾಗಲಿ ಯಾರೂ ಅಡ್ಡಿ ಮಾಡಕೂಡದೆಂದು ಎಚ್ಚರಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಭೂಸ್ವಾಧೀನ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ, ಸೂಕ್ತ ಪರಿಹಾರದ ಹಕ್ಕು ಪುನರ್ವಸತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪುನರ್ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ 2013 (2013ರ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:30) ರ ಕಲಂ II (1) ಮೇರೆಗೆ ಈ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ ಪ್ರಕಟಗೊಂಡ ದಿನಾಂಕದಿಂದ ಸದರಿ ಸ್ವಾಧೀನಪಡಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲಿರುವ ಭೂಮಿಯನ್ನು ಒಪ್ಪಂದದ ಮೇರೆಗೆ ವಿಕ್ರಯಿಸುವ ಕ್ರಮ, ಭೋಗ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ಅಡವಿಡುವ, ಅನುಭವಿಸುವ, ಬದಲಾಯಿಸುವ ಅಥವಾ ಇನ್ನೂ ಯಾವುದೇ ರೀತಿಯ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಗಳನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳದಂತೆ ನಿರ್ಭಂದಿಸಿದೆ. ಅಂತಹ ಯಾವುದೇ ಕ್ರಮ ಅಥವಾ ಇನ್ನಾವುದೇ ರೀತಿಯ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಗಳನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಂಡಲ್ಲಿ ಅದನ್ನು ಐತೀರ್ಪು ರಚಿಸುವಾಗ ಗಣನೆಗೆ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳದೇ ಅಂತಿಮವಾಗಿ ಸದರಿ ಕಾಯ್ದೆಯನ್ವಯ ಭೂಸ್ವಾಧೀನಪಡಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗುವುದೆಂದು ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ತಿಳಿಯಪಡಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಕಂಇ 148 ಎಕ್ಕೂಬಿ 2025, ದಿನಾಂಕ: 15-11-2025 ರಂತೆ ಭೂಸ್ವಾಧೀನ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯನ್ನು ಪ್ರಾರಂಭಿಸಲು ಮೂಲ ಭೂಸ್ವಾಧೀನ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ 2013 ರ ಅಧ್ಯಾಯ-II ರಡಿ ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ಪರಿಣಾಮ ನಿರ್ಧರಣಾ ಅಧ್ಯಯನ (SIA) ಮಾಡುವುದರಿಂದ ಹಾಗೂ ಅಧ್ಯಾಯ-III ರ ಕಲಂ 10ನ್ನು ಅನ್ವಯಿಸುವುದರಿಂದ ವಿನಾಯಿತಿ ನೀಡಿ ಆದೇಶಿಸಿದೆ. ಭೂಸ್ವಾಧೀನ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ, ಸೂಕ್ತ ಪರಿಹಾರದ ಹಕ್ಕು ಪುನರ್ವಸತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪುನರ್ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ 2013 (2013ರ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:30) ರ ಕಲಂ-15(1)ರ ಮೇರೆಗೆ ಆಸಕ್ತಿಯುಳ್ಳವರು ತಮ್ಮ ಆಕ್ಷೇಪವಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ, ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ಈ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ ಪ್ರಕಟಗೊಂಡ 60 ದಿನಗಳೊಳಗಾಗಿ ಈ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯಕ್ಕೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬೇಕು. ತದನಂತರ ಸ್ವೀಕೃತವಾಗುವ ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ಯಾವುದೇ ಮುನ್ಸೂಚನೆ ನೀಡದೇ ವಿಲೇಗೆ ಹಾಕಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಸದರಿ ಪ್ರಕರಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಭೂಸ್ವಾಧೀನಕ್ಕೆ ಒಳಪಡುವ ಜಮೀನಿನ ಒಂದು ನಕ್ಷೆಯನ್ನು ಜಂಟಿ ಆಯುಕ್ತರು, ಐಡಿಯಲ್ ಹೋಮ್ಸ್, 18ನೇ ಕ್ರಾಸ್, ರಾಜರಾಜೇಶ್ವರಿ ನಗರ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ ನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಇವರ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಪರಿಶೀಲನೆಗಾಗಿ ಇಡಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಅನುಸೂಚಿ

ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ: ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು: ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಹೋಬಳಿ: ಕೆಂಗೇರಿ ಗ್ರಾಮ: ಕೆಂಚೇನಹಳ್ಳಿ

ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ.	ಖಾತೆದಾರರ ಹೆಸರು		ನಿವೇಶನ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ಸ. ನಂ.	ಬಿಬಿಎಂಪಿ ಖಾತೆ ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ.	ಸ್ವಾಧೀನಕ್ಕೊಳಪಡುವ ಒಟ್ಟು ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣ ಚ.ಮೀಗಳಲ್ಲಿ			ತರಹೆ	ಚಕ್ಕುಬಂದಿ/ಸರಹದ್ದು			
	ಭೂಮಾಲೀಕರ/ ಹಿಡುವಳಿದಾರರ ಹೆಸರು (ಪಹಣಿಯಂತೆ)	ಬಿಬಿಎಂಪಿ ಖಾತೆಯಂತೆ ಮಾಲೀಕರ ಹೆಸರು / ಅನುಭವದಾರರ ಹೆಸರು				ಕೃಷಿ	ಖರಾಬು	ಒಟ್ಟು		ಪೂ	ಪ	ಉ	ದ
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	ರಾಜಕುಮಾರ್ ಟಿ.ಎಂ	ಟಿ.ಎಂ ರಾಜಕುಮಾರ್	100/1626/26 /1ಎ2/1ಬಿ2/95	26//1ಎ2 /26/1ಬಿ2	098	05 ಗುಂಟೆ	-	05 ಗುಂಟೆ	-	ಸರ್ವೆ ನಂ.26/ 1ಬಿ2 & 26/1ಎ2	ರಸ್ತೆ	ರಸ್ತೆ	ರಸ್ತೆ

ಮಾನ್ಯ ಆಯುಕ್ತರ ರವರ ಅನುಮೋದನೆ ಮೇರೆಗೆ

ಸಹಿ/-
ಜಂಟಿ ಆಯುಕ್ತರು, ರಾಜರಾಜೇಶ್ವರಿನಗರ ವಲಯ,
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ ನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
U R RAO SATELLITE CENTRE
HAL Airport Road, Vimanapura Post, Bangalore - 560 017
CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP
(Phone : 080 25084168, 4175, 4169) (Fax:080 25084155)
BRIEF E-TENDER NOTICE

1. On behalf of President of India, item rate tender is invited for the following work.

Description	Details
Name of work	Replacement of Crab Hoist Assembly and drive mechanisms for existing various Capacity EOT Cranes at Main Campus, URSC, Vimanapura, Bengaluru – 560017
E-Tender Notice	URSC/C and MG/ACMD/CRANE/1062/ETN 101M/2025-26 Dt.09.12.2025
Estimated cost put to Tender	₹ 87.16 Lakhs
Tender Document Details	**E-Tender**
Period of completion in months reckoned from the 15th day of date of issue of work order	270 days / 09 months
Period during which the tender document can be downloaded.	From 10:30 Hrs. on 10.12.2025 to 16:30Hrs. on 31.12.2025
Bid clarification	From 11:00 Hrs. on 10.12.2025 to 17:00 Hrs. on 02.01.2026
Last date and time of reply to Bid clarification.	Upto 17:00hrs on 05.01.2026
Last date and time for receipt of tenders.	Upto 14:30 Hrs. on 12.01.2026
Due date and time of opening of tenders.	After 15:00 Hrs. on 12.01.2026
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	**₹ 1,74,320/- (Validity for 180 days)**

2. Interested tenderers may please refer Detailed Notice Inviting E-Tender (NIET) for eligibility criteria and other details along with Hindi version in website: **www.isro.gov.in** and download the tender documents from **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO**

Sd/-
Group Director (Construction & Maintenance Group)

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through KPP portal only)

KPTCL Invites Bids for the following works:

1. CEE/Tr(O)ZB/SEE(O)/AE-2/BIAL-457(4)/2025-26/7903 Date:09.12.2025

Enquiry No:KPTCL/CEE/T(O)Z/BZ/PTK-24 for "Providing additional 11kV Switchgears at **66/11kV Rajankunte sub-station** coming under Operations Division, BIAL Begur in Bengaluru North Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District on **Partial Turnkey Basis** including supply of all matching materials **(Excluding Supply of 11kV Switchgears)**/equipments and erection (including civil works) of all materials/equipments, testing and commissioning".

2. CEE/Tr(O)ZB/SEE(O)/AE-2/NEL-482(3)/2025-26/7885 Date:08.12.2025

Enquiry No: KPTCL/CEE/T(O)Z/BZ/PTK-17 for "Providing new Bank-3 along with 1CX1000Sqmm UG Cable run from 31.5MVA Power Transformer-2 to new bank-3 at **66/11kV Alur sub-station** coming under Operations Division, Nelamangala in Bengaluru North Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District on **Partial Turnkey Basis** including supply of all matching materials/equipments **(Excluding Switchgear)** and erection (including civil works) of all materials/equipments, testing and commissioning".

The Bids will be received through electronic tender mode only. The detailed notification regarding the subject enquiry in the e-tendering process can be obtained by logging into KPP Portal website **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on or after for **Sl.No.1** Date:**12.12.2025** & for **Sl.No.2** Date: **10.12.2025.** Other details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Chief Engineer (Elec),
Transmission (Operations) Zone, KPTCL,
Anandarao Circle, Bengaluru-09

IN BRIEF

Sub-Jr TT from December 17

▸ The CVL Shastry Memorial Karnataka State Table Tennis Championships will be held from December 17 to 21 in Malleswaram, reports DHNS.

The tournament features events across U-11, U-13, U-15, U-17 and U-19 categories for boys and girls, along with NMS, men's and women's singles. Entries must be submitted through the official online portal, with the deadline set for 8 pm on December 13. For more details, contact Sanjay at 94484 85357.

DYES A thrash Postal

▸ At the Hockey Karnataka's Namdhari Cup, held on Tuesday, Harish Mutagar's hat-trick pushed the Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports A to a 5-0 victory over Postal, reports DHNS.

In the second match, the Sports Authority of India Training Centre B conceded defeat to Canara Bank 2-1.

Results: DYES A: 5 (Aryan Uthappa MT 8th, Harish Mutagar 19th, 24th, 48th, Desh Poovaiah AA 34th) bt Postal: 0; Canara Bank: 2 (Likhith BM 40th, Nitesh Sharma 45th) bt SAI STC B: 1 (Pavan DR 16th).

Messi, Suarez in Mumbai

▸ Argentine football icon Lionel Messi will walk the ramp in Mumbai "for a cause" during his India tour, the organisers of which have requested him to bring select memorabilia from their 2022 World Cup triumph for an auction, reports PTI from Kolkata.

Suvik earns Karnataka innings lead

BENGALURU, DHNS: Suvik Gill played a crucial 35-run knock down the batting order to help Karnataka gain a first innings lead in a drawn match against Madhya Pradesh on the final day of their Vijay Merchant Trophy's Elite Group D fixture in Raipur.

Karnataka, resuming at 243/5, found themselves in trouble early in the first session with Aaryasinh Chavda (67) getting dismissed after adding just five runs to his overnight score. Gill then struck seven fours during his 54-ball stay and was the last batter to be dismissed, taking Karnataka to 314 all out in response to MP's 292 from the other day.

Brief scores: Madhya Pradesh: 292 all out & 149/4 decl in 31 overs (Kushagra Nagar 79, Aarav Masih 33 n.o.; Arush Jain 2-32) drew with Karnataka: (O/n: 243/5) 314 all out in 105.1 overs (R Rohith Reddy 71, Aaryansinh N Chavda 67, Sukurth J 49, Suvik Gill 35; Naitik Jain 3-100, Vivaan Pande 2-57, Ritik Parab 3-87) & 65/1 in 22 overs (R Rohith Reddy 27 n.o., Arush Jain 30 n.o.). **Karnataka's next match:** Vs Uttarakhand (Dec 12).

◆ ON TV ◆

CRICKET

2nd Test: New Zealand vs West Indies **(Day 2, 3:30 am Thursday)**. **LIVE** on **Sony Sports Network** and **FanCode**.

3rd WT20I: South Africa vs Ireland **(9:30 pm) LIVE** on **Star Sports 3** and **JioHotstar**.

FOOTBALL

Champions League: Qarabag vs Ajax, Villarreal vs Copenhagen **(both 11:15 pm)**; Bayer Leverkusen vs Newcastle United, Real Madrid vs Manchester City, Benfica vs Napoli, Club Brugge vs Arsenal, Athletic Club vs PSG, Juventus vs Pafos, Dortmund vs Bodo/ Glimt **(all 1:30 am, Thursday)**. **LIVE** on **Sony Sports Network** and **SonyLIV**.

HOCKEY

Men's Junior World Cup: India vs Argentina **(5:30 pm, third-place match)**; Germany vs Spain **(8:00 pm, final)**. **LIVE** on **Star Sports Network** and **JioHotstar**.

FIH Pro League: Germany vs Netherlands **(women's, 6:00 am)**, England vs Germany **(men's, 5:00 pm)**, Ireland vs Belgium **(women's 7:30 pm)**. **LIVE** on **Star Sports Network** and **JioHotstar**.

CRICKET FIRST T20I

Indians start with a bang

Pandya, bowlers dazzle in crushing 101-run win over South Africa

CUTTACK, PTI

India's Hardik Pandya deposits one into the stands during his blistering 59 not out off 28 balls against South Africa in the opening T20I at the Barabati Stadium in Cuttack on Tuesday. AFP

Hardik Pandya made a memorable comeback to national colours, striking a mood-lifting unbeaten fifty and then took a key wicket as India etched a dominant 101-run win over South Africa in the opening match of the five-match series here on Tuesday.

The victory helped India take a 1-0 lead in the rubber and it also pushed South Africa to their lowest-ever T20I total. Their previous lowest was also against India -- 87 all out in Rajkot in 2022.

India had been pushed onto the back-foot after SA asked them to bat first on a tacky red-soil surface, but Pandya's commanding 59 not out off 28 balls rescued them from early turbulence. India posted a competitive 175/6.

On a pitch that demanded discipline, South Africa showed none, to be all out for a mere 74 in 12.3 overs, as the hosts' bowlers ran through them with relentless accuracy.

Arshdeep Singh, Jasprit Bumrah, Varun Chakravarthy and Axar Patel grabbed two wickets each, while Pandya fittingly chipped in with the prized scalp of David Miller.

It was also South Africa's first defeat in three T20Is in Cuttack, and if India had started shakily, South Africa began disastrously.

Arshdeep set the tone with a superb away-swinger that kissed past Quinton de Kock's tentative prod for a two-ball duck. In his next over, Arshdeep produced another beauty -- a length ball that jagged back into the in-form Tristan Stubbs (14).

India went upstairs for the review, and UltraEdge confirmed a thick inside edge onto the elbow before Jitesh Sharma completed a sharp take as South Africa were 18/2 inside four overs.

Axar was introduced in the final over of the Powerplay and struck immediately.

Aiden Markram, shuffling back to work a skiddy, straight delivery, was beaten on the inside edge to get bowled. At 28/3 in six overs, South Africa were already in a hole.

Pandya then added to their misery, dismissing Miller.

Chakravarthy, operating with sharp drift and deceptive pace, got into action after the powerplay. Donovan Ferreira was late to react to a delivery that held back, and could only nick behind to Jitesh.

The end arrived quickly thereafter with Bumrah cleaning up Dewald Brevis and Keshav Maharaj in the space of four deliveries.

Earlier, coming back after 74 days following a left quadricep injury that forced him out of the Asia Cup, Pandya walked in at No. 6 and immediately changed the tempo of the match.

SCOREBOARD

INDIA

Abhishek c Jansen b Sipamla	17
Gill c Jansen b Ngidi	4
Suryakumar c Markram b Ngidi	12
Tilak c Jansen b Ngidi	26
Axar c Ferreira b Sipamla	23
Hardik (not out)	59
Dube b Ferreira	11
Jitesh (not out)	10
Extras (B-4, W-9)	13
TOTAL (for 6 wkts, 20 overs)	**175**

Fall of wickets: 1-5, 2-17, 3-48, 4-78, 5-104, 6-137.

Bowling: Ngidi 4-0-31-3, Jansen 4-0-23-0, Sipamla 4-0-38-2, Nortje 4-0-41-0, Maharaj 2-0-25-0, Ferreira 2-0-13-1.

SOUTH AFRICA

de Kock c Abhishek b Arshdeep	0
Markram b Axar	14
Stubbs c Jitesh b Arshdeep	14
Brevis c Suryakumar b Bumrah	22
Miller c Jitesh b Pandya	1
Ferreira c Jitesh b Chakravarthy	5
Jansen b Chakravarthy	12
Maharaj c Jitesh b Bumrah	0
Nortje b Axar	1
Sipamla c Abhishek b Dube	2
Ngidi (not out)	2
Extras (W-1)	1
TOTAL (all out, 12.3 overs)	**74**

Fall of wickets: 1-0, 2-16, 3-40, 4-45, 5-50, 6-68, 7-68, 8-70, 9-72.

Bowling: Arshdeep 2-0-14-2, Bumrah 3-0-17-2, Chakravarthy 3-1-19-2, Axar 2-0-7-2, Pandya 2-0-16-1, Dube 0.3-0-1-1.

Result: India won by 101 runs.

Series: India lead 5-match series 1-0.

PoM: Hardik Pandya. **Second T20I:** Dec 11 (New Chandigarh).

De Kock late addition for IPL's payday

350 players will go under the hammer on December 16

MUMBAI, PTI

A total of 350 cricketers, including 240 Indians, will go under the hammer in the IPL auction to take place in Abu Dhabi on December 16, with South Africa's comeback man Quinton de Kock a surprise late addition to the final list.

Wicketkeeper-batter de Kock, who recently came out of his ODI retirement, has been kept at a base price of Rs 1 crore. The list also includes Australia batter Steve Smith at a base price of Rs 2 crore. Smith last played in the IPL in 2021.

A total of 1,390 players registered for the Player Auction. The number was pruned to 1,005 players before 350 were finally shortlisted to battle for 77 slots available including 31 for overseas players, across the 10 teams for the 19th edition of the world's biggest T20 league.

The first set of players in the auction includes India and Mumbai batters Prithvi Shaw and Sarfaraz Khan, who both have kept their base price at Rs 75 lakh each. Shaw had a regular run in the IPL from 2018 to 2024 but had gone unsold in the auction for the last edition, whereas Sarfaraz has not played in the competition since 2021.

The list shared by the IPL features two Australians in Cameron Green and Jake Fraser-McGurk, along with New Zealand and former Chennai Super Kings opener Devon Conway and South Africa's David Miller, with each of them keeping a base price of Rs 2 crore.

Venkatesh Iyer, who was released by Kolkata Knight Riders, has listed himself at a base price of Rs 2 crore. Among domestic players, Kunal Chandela and Ashok Kumar, who are among the leading run-getters and wicket-takers respectively in the Syed Mushtaq Ali T20 Trophy, are also in the final list.

Three-time winners KKR will go into the auction with the biggest purse of Rs 64.3 crores, followed by five-time champions CSK with Rs 43.4 crores. Sunrisers Hyderabad, who have won the IPL once, have the third highest purse of Rs 25.5 crores.

South Africa's wicketkeeper-batter Quinton de Kock has been kept at a base price of Rs 1 crore. PTI

United punish woeful Wolves

WOLVERHAMPTON, AFP

Manchester United's Bryan Mbeumo (left) rounds off Wolves goalkeeper Sam Johnstone to score team's third goal at the Molineux Stadium in Wolverhampton on Monday night.

Manchester United climbed back into the race to qualify for the Champions League as Bruno Fernandes inspired a 4-1 rout of woeful Wolves on Monday.

Ruben Amorim's side recovered from their disappointing draw with lowly West Ham last week thanks to Fernandes' double and goals from Bryan Mbeumo and Mason Mount at Molineux.

Jean-Ricner Bellegarde had cancelled out Fernandes' opener with Wolves' first goal in six games in all competitions and their first in the top-flight since October 26.

But Mbeumo, Mount and Fernandes netted after the interval to clinch only United's second win in their last six matches.

United suffered an embarrassing 1-0 home loss to 10-man Everton on November 24 and 10 days later boos greeted the final whistle following a 1-1 draw with West Ham at Old Trafford.

With Amorim growing increasingly tetchy in recent weeks, it was essential that sixth-placed United avoided an embarrassing result against bottom of the table Wolves as they moved within one point of the top four.

Wolves' eighth successive league defeat equalled their worst top-flight run since 1981-82 and left boss Rob Edwards still waiting for his first victory since arriving from Middlesbrough to replace the sacked Vitor Pereira in November.

Wolves have just two points after 15 games and if they fail to win either of their next two against Arsenal and Brentford they will equal Sheffield United's longest winless start in the Premier League of 17 matches.

Derby's Premier League record low of just 11 points in a single season is also under threat from dismal Wolves.

Diogo Dalot should have put United ahead in the opening moments when he raced clean through on goal, but the defender's tame shot was palmed away by Wolves keeper Sam Johnstone.

Hundreds of angry Wolves fans boycotted the opening 15 minutes to protest against owners Fosun and executive chairman Jeff Shi.

Karnataka women crash out in semis

BENGALURU, DHNS: Saloni P's half-century and BG Tejashwini's three-for went in vain as Delhi, riding on Vanshika Lila's 19-ball 38, defeated Karnataka and progressed to the final of the BCCI under-23 women's T20 Trophy at the Gujarat College Cricket Ground A in Ahmedabad on Tuesday.

Chasing Delhi's 144-run target, Karnataka, led by Saloni, could not many partners to stitch partnerships with and were restricted to 133 all out in 19.3 overs.

Having won the toss and electing to field, Karnataka bowled well to limit Delhi to 143/8, thanks to Tejashwini, who returned with brilliant figures of three for nine in four overs, which also included a maiden.

Opener Niki Prasad (4) was the first to depart in the first over of the chase.

Brief scores: Delhi: 143/8 in 20 overs (Shivi Sharma 29, Vanshika Lila 38; BG Tejashwini 3-9) bt Karnataka: 133 all out in 19.3 overs (Roshni Kiran 27, Saloni P 51; Priya Mishra 2-24, Madhu 2-26).

Rajveer sparkles in Minerva's massive win

BENGALURU, DHNS

Rajveer Mehta scored 136 in Minerva Cricket Club's massive 232-run victory over Bangalore Occasionals in the latest round of matches of the KSCA U-14 Inter-Club tournament Group I - I, II and III Division.

Rajveer's knock took Minerva to 300/7 in 50 overs with Siddharth Ram Narayan contributing a knock of 59. In response, Occasionals were bundled out for 68 as Siddharth and Sathvik Gowda took four wickets each.

In another match, Ahaan Dash delivered with both bat and the ball as he took 4/12 after scoring 73 to power his side Vijaya Cricket Club to a 186-run victory over Jayanagar Cricketers in a one-sided affair.

Brief scores: Minerva CC: 300/7 in 50 overs (Rajveer Mehta 136, Akhieera Allan W 32, Siddharth Ram Narayan 59; Rishi Bhat DR 2-53, Dhruv Krishnan K 2-46) bt Bangalore Occasionals: 68 all out in 16 overs (Aayat Rahim Khan 26, Cherish Kumar GN 26; Sathvik Gowda 4-25, Siddharth Ram Narayan 4-12). Vijaya CC: 282 all out in 49.3 overs (Ahaan Dash 73, Gagan Metre 88, Sahas NP 33; Syed Ayyan Fareez 2-33, Lakshya Sinha 3-42, Sushil Kumar G 3-52) bt Jayanagar Cricketers: 96 all out in 19.4 overs (Syed Muhammad Hussaini 35; Vishv Sachin Raddi 2-39, Aniket Chaturvedi 3-14, Ahaan Dash 4-18).

South End SC: 117 all out in 34.3 overs (Paajwal 37 n.o.; Vedik R 2-10, Vismay M 4-30) lt to National United CC: 120/6 in 23.4 overs (Saarish Prakash 53).

Dooravani Cricketers (1): 145 all out in 36.2 overs (Krishav Karthik 35; Thamish T 2-29, Mohammed Yaseen 5-33, Jeet D 2-26) lt to Young Lions Club: 119/7 in 27.1 overs (Mohammed Yaseen 48 n.o.; Madaka Rohith 3-15, K Nithin 2-11, Krishav Karthik 2-20).

Jawahar Sports Club (1): 50 all out in 16 overs (Anirudh Prasanna 3-25, Sameer Hegde 3-15, Sharav Chetan Koundinya 2-7) lt to Mount Joy CC: 51/4 in 12.2 overs.

Viswaswarapuram CC (1): 147 all out in 49.2 overs (Advith Vyakaranam 40, Rupankar Nandi 29, Abhyuday T 25; Sidharth Nayaka NS 2-30, Samarth A Warad 2-21, Gagan P Maiya 2-3) lt to Mathikere CC: 150/4 in 32.4 overs (Pratham Satish 56, Surya DC 43, Gagan P Maiya 34; Chirantana S 2-39).

Swastic Union CC: 203/8 in 50 overs (Hrithvik Shetty 38, Samarth Suresh 29, Saachin Araganji 35, Samrat Aditya P 44; Gaurav V 6-22, Ronit M 2-49) bt Southern Cricketers: 163 all out in 42.1 overs (Chayaank Pradeep 31, Likhith Gaddi 60; Samrat Aditya 2-34, Samay Jayashankar 4-19, Saachin Araganji 2-16).

Century Cricketers: 197/9 in 50 overs (Ayush 77, Tungish BS 23; Arush Jadhav 2-32, Sriram S 3-32) bt Kapali CC: 156 all out in 46.5 overs (Harshan V 51, Laksh Manickam 3-30, Lalitaditya G 3-20).

Akshath gives Karnataka early advantage

BENGALURU, DHNS: Akshath Prabhakar picked up a brilliant five-for while teammate Eesa Puthige returned with a three-for as Karnataka bagged the opening day honours against Odisha in their Elite Cooch Behar Trophy game at the Gandhi Stadium in Balangir on Tuesday.

With the flip of the coin falling their way, Odisha, opting to bat, endured an ordinary batting performance in the first innings to fold up for just 170 as Akshath picked up wickets regularly. Opener Abhiroop Das was the highest scorer for Odisha with 39 to his name.

Karnataka, in their reply, were 50 for the loss of one wicket at stumps, with Dhruv Krishnan unbeaten on 31, with Manikanth Shivanand on 9 at the other end.

Brief scores: Odisha: 170 all out in 58.4 overs (Abhiroop Das 39, Aditya Ranjan Rai 31; Eesa Puthige 3-52, Akshath Prabhakar 5-35) vs Karnataka: 50/1 in 17 overs (Dhruv Krishnan 31 n.o.).

State cueists clear round 3

BENGALURU, DHNS: Karnataka duo Keerthana Pandian (**in pic**) and Natasha Chethan, the reigning National women's and U-19 champions respectively, prevailed in the battle of the sexes in the third round of the Joy Heyball International Open in Chandigarh on Tuesday.

Coming off a bronze-medal effort at the IBSF World Snooker Championships last month, Keerthana registered a comfortable 4-3 win over Piyush Kushwaha. The 23-year-old from Kolar was just a win away from booking her berth in the knockouts.

The promising Natasha, the reigning IBSF World U-21 snooker champion, outclassed Prateek Jain 5-2 in her third-round clash. The tall Bengaluru cueist, who has had more exposure in heyball than most players in the country, too was just a win away from the knockouts.

Earlier, Sumit Talwar took out India No. 3 Harish Kumar 5-3 in the third round.

Chawla meanwhile stayed in the hunt by defeating Anuj Uppal in a shootout (3-2) after being level 3-3 at the end of regulation time.

Select results: Round 3 (Indians unless mentioned): David Anderson (RSA) bt Musauvir Shahroz 5-1; Sundeep Gulati bt Ankur Nanda 5-2; Natasha Chethan bt Prateek Jain 5-2; Chetan Chabra bt Parvesh Jaidka 4-2; Sumit Talwar bt Harish Kumar 5-3; Ketan Sabhachandani bt Divya Sharma 5-4; Rajat Khaneja bt Pushpender Singh 5-4; Keerthana Pandian bt Piyush Kushwaha 4-3; Younis Nazir Kuchey bt Sachin 4-4 (Black ball shootout); Faisal Khan bt Karthik BC 5-4.

Kamalini gets maiden call-up

NEW DELHI, PTI

G Kamalini and Vaishnavi Sharma on Tuesday got their maiden call-ups in the Indian women's team for the upcoming five-match T20I series against Sri Lanka at home.

The series will be played from December 21 to 30, with the first two games in Visakhapatnam and the last three in Thiruvananthapuram. While 17-year-old wicketkeeper-batter Kamalini has featured in nine matches for Mumbai Indians in the Women's Premier League, Vaishnavi (19), who is also a part of the 15-member India squad, was not drafted into the WPL auctions.

G Kamalini

Kamalini and Vaishnavi came in place of Radha Yadav and Uma Chhetri, who were part of the squad that triumphed in the ODI World Cup last month. Kamalini and Vaishnavi aside, the squad comprises all the familiar names with Harmanpreet Kaur leading the team and Smriti Mandhana doing duty as the vice captain.

Big-hitting opener Shafali Verma, who replaced Pratika Rawal in the World Cup squad just before the semi-final against Australia after the latter was ruled out of the tournament with an injury, is also part of the team.

India and Sri Lanka play the five-match series just before the start of the WPL 2026 on January 9 in Navi Mumbai.

Schedule of this bilateral series was announced soon after the white-ball series between India and Bangladesh that was to happen in India in December got postponed last month.

Squad: Harmanpreet Kaur (C), Smriti Mandhana (VC), Deepti Sharma, Sneh Rana, Jemimah Rodrigues, Shafali Verma, Harleen Deol, Amanjot Kaur, Arundhati Reddy, Kranti Gaud, Renuka Singh Thakur, Richa Ghosh (WK), G Kamalini (WK), Sree Charani, Vaishnavi Sharma.

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